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An impressive array of wildlife  
is splashing about in the estuary



See inside



# Kent on Sunday

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www.kentnews.co.uk August 25, 2013

**EAST KENT EDITION**

Issue no 570

## House prices are on the up



**By Marijke Cox**  
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

HOUSE prices are on the way back up again as movement in the market suggests that finally, after five bleak years, the property sector is getting back on its feet.

With the economy showing tentative steps towards a recovery, news that Kent's housing market has once again become more fluid will be seen as a huge shot of confidence.

### Special KOS Report

House prices are rising, mortgage providers are lending again and first-time buyers are getting that important step onto the property ladder.

In our special report, industry experts from across the county told this newspaper all indicators were pointing to a positive outlook.

While cynics could argue it's all been said before, with small, infrequent bursts of life within the market in recent years, others insist this is the turning point. Kent in particular, they say, is in a strong position.

"Things are positive, particularly in the London-influenced ar-

eas which Kent falls into," said Miles Shippside, commercial director and housing market analyst at Right Move. "It's been a long and difficult road since the credit crunch first hit, but demand is picking up and the economy is picking up.

"It will particularly be felt in areas within commuting distance to London. The high speed train really helps too.

"People are priced out of London's  
**Continued on page 2**

#### ENTERTAINMENT

### Uni star hits number one

JUST five years after leaving the University of Kent to pursue her dream of stardom, Ellie Goulding spent the week celebrating her first number one single.

The singer-songwriter is already a well established chart regular, but Burn is her first UK chart-topper.

**PAGE 3**

#### SPECIAL REPORT

### Poverty: Our secret shame

THE county may have a reputation for affluence, but in a special report this week, we take a look at the often ignored poverty which exists in the county.

And we highlight how we have some of the most deprived areas in the whole of the UK.

**PAGE 4**

#### SPORT

### Cricket week proves a hit

CROWDS flocked to one of the traditional highlights of the county's sporting calendar; Canterbury Cricket Week.

And while there was food, fashion and Champagne flowing at the club's headquarters, plans were also unveiled to enhance facilities at its ground at Beckenham.

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KIDZ ON STAGE present

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ROAR: 'Real' Dinosaurs

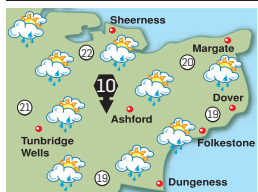
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## Weather



**TODAY:** Cloudy with showery spells of rain, some heavy. Gentle winds. Max temp 20-23C (68-73F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with clear spells. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

| TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres) |       |     |           |
|----------------------------|-------|-----|-----------|
| Dover                      | 02.21 | 6.6 | 14.35 6.8 |
| Margate                    | 03.36 | 4.8 | 15.41 5.0 |
| St Mary's                  | 08.11 | 5.5 | 20.30 5.5 |

## WEEK AHEAD

|  | Monday    | Max 24C | Min 13C |
|--|-----------|---------|---------|
|  | Tuesday   | Max 22C | Min 12C |
|  | Wednesday | Max 22C | Min 12C |
|  | Thursday  | Max 22C | Min 12C |
|  | Friday    | Max 22C | Min 13C |
|  | Saturday  | Max 22C | Min 13C |

Information supplied by **MeteoGroup**

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## PROPERTY

# Estate agents say confidence is improving as new mortgage schemes help first-time buyers

Continued from front page

expensive market, so they look to places like Kent. This has a ripple effect."

Estate agents we spoke to said it was becoming a "sellers' market" meaning prices are going up.

Mr Shipside added: "There are people wanting to sell and feeling more confident but they'll have to pay more for the property they're buying."

"It's going well for homeowners, but perhaps not so good for those trying to get onto the housing ladder."

For first-time buyers, however, help is at hand in some parts of the county through the Kent local authority mortgage scheme (Kent LAMS).

Launched in Tunbridge Wells last year and Gravesham in February, and starting this month in Shepway, the scheme sees Kent County Council team up with district councils and Lloyds TSB to help people access funds.

It provides 95 per cent loan-to-value mortgages for first-time buyers, backed by a local authority indemnity, with repayment rates of just 75 per cent.

Mark Dance, KCC cabinet member for

economic development, said: "The first step on the property ladder is the hardest, so it is heartening to know we've helped to hand more than 40 first-time buyers the keys to their very first home – a moment they will never forget."

"With the scheme now available in Shepway and our plans to roll-out to other districts in Kent, we're looking forward to helping many more first-time buyers with similar financial circumstances in the near future."

The scheme is supported by the councils; districts put forward around £1 million, match-funded by KCC. It is expected to compliment the government's Help to Buy scheme and breathe life into the ailing housing market.

And it seems it already is.

Manager at Ward and Partners in Broadstairs, Ross Anderson, said the market was currently strong.

"There are plenty of buyers at the moment. Houses are selling pretty much at the asking price or close to it," he said. "It's turning into a sellers' market."

He told us house buying schemes, such as Kent LAMS, was helping "pockets" of first-time buyers.

He added: "The recession has been around for about five years. People haven't been able to get 100 or 110 per cent mortgages and they've had to save for deposits. Mortgage rates are at an all time low which is helping. It all has a big, positive knock-on effect."

Sarah Bellamy, senior sales negotiator at McAuley Miller estate agents in Tunbridge Wells, said she hoped it would be the turning point.

"We've had lots of sales and prices have gone up a little," she said. "Lenders have relaxed and people are more confident. The first-time buyers' market has also gone up, which will help."

"I think people are getting the prices they are asking for. If it's priced well and it's a good property, people will buy."

Others, however, are more cautious.

Some fear an increase in buy-to-let mortgages could lead to an unsustainable housing boom.

Ryan Cooper, from Haart estate agents in Rochester, told us while the current forecast is good, it's not as positive as some people make out.

"There's been a lack of properties so you have two or three people fighting

over them and that's why it's been busy," he said. "I don't think this is a long-term fix or a natural boom."

"It's natural for people to feel optimistic but I don't think we're there yet."

"Young people are in debt and we haven't seen much evidence of people using the first-time buyer scheme."

But another hint towards a booming market is the house-building industry.

Andrew Shankster, managing director for Persimmon Homes South East, based in Maidstone, said an increased demand for new homes and improved mortgage availability was positive.

"Nationally we have seen a 15 per cent increase in visitors to our developments, with weekly private sales reservations 12 per cent ahead of 2012, rising to 30 per cent stronger following the introduction of the Government's Help to Buy measures," he said.

■ **Looking to move? Then why not check our website [www.homes24.co.uk](http://www.homes24.co.uk) for properties near you.**

**And for more on Persimmon Homes' impressive financial performance, turn to the business pages inside this issue.**

## COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH

## ALSO



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## Business Quarter September 15

All the latest business news and the movers and shakers shaping the county's economy



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## ENTERTAINMENT

## Ellie Goulding races to number one spot

ELLIE Goulding beat off the challenge of Lady Gaga to secure her first ever number one single last week – just five years after she left the University of Kent to follow the road to stardom.

The singer-songwriter, 26, shifted some 117,000 copies of her song *Burn* to claim the top spot – beating off a challenge from the American diva in the process.

It comes three years after she reached number two with a cover version of Elton John's classic *Your Song*. In that same year she also scored her first number one album with *Lights*.

Her success follows a two-year

stint studying a course in drama and theatre studies in 2006 in Canterbury. It was there she was spotted by a record label scout during a talent show staged by the university.

By 2009 she had signed to Polydor and by the end of the year had been named as the BBC's Sound of 2010 poll winner, which surveyed industry experts for the rising star. Other winners have included the likes of Adele and Jessie J.

Miss Goulding has not forgotten her time in Canterbury either – in 2011 she headlined the Saturday night of the Lounge on the Farm festival at Merton Farm.

Picture: TIM P. WHITBY/GETTY IMAGES FOR GUCCI



## CRIME

## Crackdown on violence

POLICE will step up patrols this weekend in a bid to crack down on violent crime.

It comes amid fears alcohol-fuelled nights out over the bank holiday weekend could see a spike in incidents.

Last weekend alone 111 people were arrested on suspicion of violence across the county and 139 the weekend before.

Chief Constable Ian Learmonth said: "Patrols will be visible in town centres across Kent. Violent behaviour will not be tolerated."

## FIRE

## Heat fans field flames

THE long hot summer was being blamed for a number of fires in fields and crops this week.

Fire crews were called out to incidents in Sevenoaks, West Malling, Northfleet, Lydd, Whitstable, Dartford, Canterbury and Crundale as the dry ground was ignited.

Firefighters are urging everyone to take extra care during the dry spell to avoid sparking fires.

## TRAVEL

## M20 overnight closure

MOTORISTS are being warned of closures of the M20 over coming weeks as part of surface improvement works.

Work will begin on Tuesday and involve overnight closures of the London-bound carriageway between junctions 10 and nine near Ashford. Weather permitting, it should be complete by September 9.

## WILDLIFE

## Nature lovers in a flutter as long summer sparks butterfly revival

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE long hot summer has proved a life-saver for the county's butterfly population, with many species not seen for years once again fluttering over our landscapes.

Recent dull wet weather across the UK had played havoc with butterfly populations, with one expert saying 52 of the nation's 56 species had seen sharp drops in numbers.

But the long dry spell has allowed them to regroup and many have flown on the warm breeze from the Continent to once again be seen in Kent's gardens, fields and parks.

Professional entomologist and curator at Tunbridge Wells Museum, Ian Beavis, said the revival was one of the highlights of the year.

He told KoS: "It is excellent news and is pretty much all down to the weather."

"They breed more and are able to feed more during periods of good weather, and nature is the one to benefit."

"We have had some poor summers and that is bad news for the butterfly."

The long-tailed blue has been spotted in the county for what is believed to be the first time since the late 1950s, along with the likes of more frequent visitors, the clouded yellows and the painted lady.

### WHY THEY ARE IMPORTANT

- Butterflies and moths are indicators of a healthy environment and healthy ecosystems.
- Areas rich in them are rich in other invertebrates. These collectively provide a wide range of environmental benefits, including pollination and natural pest control.
- They are an important element of the food chain and are prey for birds, bats and other insectivorous animals.
- They support a range of other predators and parasites, many of which are specific to individual species or groups of species.



**BEAUTY:** The painted lady is one of the migrant butterfly species to be found in Kent

terfly Conservation, a charity dedicated to protecting butterflies and their habitats, added: "Kent supports around 40 of the 59 species of butterfly which regularly occur in the UK. But seven out of 10 UK butterflies are in decline. "Kent is nationally important for a number of rare species including adonis blue, silver-spotted skipper, heath fritillary and Duke of Burgundy. Sadly, the pearl-bordered fritillary died out less than 10 years ago.

"Adonis blue and the silver-spotted skipper have increased in recent years partly due to conservation efforts like grazing restoration and scrub clearance on grassland sites, following a large historical decline due to habitat loss and agricultural intensification."

Mr Beavis added: "So far as I know that's correct about the long-tailed blue. It's a rare migrant from across the Channel. Clouded yellow and painted lady are also migrants, though much more regular. The fine summer has encouraged more migrants to come across the water, as well as being good for resident species."

Dr Tom Brereton from But-

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## WHERE IS THE PROBLEM IN KENT?



The view of Kent is often a romantic one, with its heritage, stunning countryside and blue flag beaches.

But Tim Nichols, spokesman for Child Poverty Action Group, said even in counties like this there are still some places with above average rates of poverty.

"When you get down to ward level, you can find pockets of very high rates," he said.

Most deprivation can be found around our coastal towns.

Take Margate, for example.

Once a thriving seaside resort, for years now Margate has been caught in a poverty loop that can be traced back to the 1970s and the start of low-cost foreign package holidays, taking tourism away from British seaside resorts and subsequently hitting what was a large source of income for many.

Local spending dropped, the economy faltered and house prices also started to reduce dramatically. London boroughs started to buy up cheap housing and dump problem families and children in care, something which authorities in Kent have so far failed to stop.

Grim findings were revealed in a report by the Centre for Social Justice, Turning the Tide, which compared Margate to some of the UK's most deprived inner city areas.

Yet it has offered a ray of light.

As well as bringing the problem to the Government's attention, it prompted calls for efforts to be "ramped up".

This combined with regeneration projects in coastal towns, including Margate, Folkestone and Dover, and a commitment from local communities, means a brighter future could be on the horizon.

## DEPRIVATION

# Special report: Poverty problem lurking behind affluent image

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

ASK many from outside the county to describe Kent and they will speak of affluence, hops, oast houses and a slice of stereotypical peace and tranquility deep within middle England.

Yet behind the leafy façade of many of our towns lurks a deep-rooted problem which continues to plague our county's authorities.

Because the Garden of England is also home to some of the most deprived wards in the country. And with such perceived prosperity, often it's the growing deprivation which goes unnoticed.

Kent is, after all, the home of Charles Dickens and Darwin, with castles, luscious countryside and trendy seaside towns attracting city dwellers to spend their hard-earned cash and, in some cases, buy a coastal getaway.

Broadstairs, for example, was recently voted one of the best places to live in the country.

Just down the road, however, you find Cliftonville West and Margate Central, wards listed among the most deprived – not just in Kent, but in the whole of England. Families struggling to afford food or pay their bills, children going without the basics we all take for granted.

Such poverty can be easily forgotten unless you are a part of it in some way or one of the many authorities – from Kent County Council and district councils to the NHS – who are doing what they can to, if not remedy the problem, at least help deprived families achieve a better standard of living.

This year, worrying reports were released revealing the high number of poverty-stricken children in Kent – 56,000, amounting to 18 per cent of our young population.

Just this month, Margate was described as a virtual ghetto-by-the-sea in a report by the Centre for Social Justice, with Thanet District Council Labour leader Clive Hart admitting: "There isn't a day that goes by where you don't see a family pushing their possessions around in a shopping trolley, moving to their new home."

Coastal areas, with the exception of towns such as Whitstable and Broadstairs, are renowned for deprivation.

But sadly, in what seems to be an unbreakable cycle, this hardship continues to attract poverty, whether it's children in care being dumped here by London boroughs or immigrants and ex-offenders moved to cheap housing in these areas.

Other districts and boroughs – Swale and Medway for example – also see high levels of deprivation in some wards and even in the seemingly prosperous west Kent, pockets of poverty can be found, often masked by the affluent façade of the picturesque towns and villages.

Worryingly, the spokesman for Child Poverty Action Group, Tim Nichols, warned of hardship increasing further.

"More families are in danger of slipping into poverty, with those already below the poverty



line being pushed in deeper," he said. "Families are facing a triple squeeze with prices for essential goods rising above general inflation, wages stagnating below inflation, and steep cuts to social security, tax credits and children's benefits."

He added: "Being in isolated pockets of poverty in otherwise affluent areas can be particularly tough, as support services are not always as well targeted, or as easily accessible as in areas of concentrated urban poverty like inner London."

Problems associated with deprivation include unemployment, mental wellbeing, sexual health, alcohol and drugs, crime and anti-social behaviour. But poverty is not always linked to the unemployed.

Half of the 56,000 deprived children have one parent working. In many of these cases, families are too proud to ask for help from authorities and continue to struggle through.

KCC chiefs have launched a child poverty strategy which brings together existing work aimed at tackling the problem, such as teaching basic parenting skills, getting adults ready to enter the workplace and offering advice and support to help people improve their lives.

The council is also working, through the Kent Troubled Families Programme, to target hard-to-reach families in deprived communities.

A KCC spokeswoman told us: "The main focus is to tackle issues of worklessness, crime and anti-social behaviour, and school absenteeism."

"The programme works in partnership with a range of statutory and voluntary agencies including health and public health services and local district councils to turn around the lives of families across Kent."

"The impact of deprivation including long-term debt and poverty, poor housing, poor health and health inequalities is frequently evident within these circumstances."

The NHS, in the form of clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) which replaced primary care trusts in April, has made tackling health inequality a top priority.

Dr Tony Martin is the chair of Thanet CCG.

"Despite the romantic seaside image, over the years Thanet has experienced many economic

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### CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Child poverty is defined as a youngster living in a household where the family claim out-of-work benefits or working tax credits where the income is 60 per cent or less than the UK average income. These figures for 2012 are based on findings by Campaign to End Child Poverty.

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Ashford               | 18% |
| Canterbury            | 20% |
| Dartford              | 19% |
| Dover                 | 22% |
| Gravesham             | 22% |
| Maidstone             | 17% |
| Medway (UA)           | 23% |
| Sevenoaks             | 14% |
| Shepway               | 23% |
| Swale                 | 25% |
| Thanet                | 28% |
| Tonbridge and Malling | 14% |
| Tunbridge Wells       | 14% |



challenges, and this is reflected in the wellbeing of local people,” he wrote in the CCG’s patient prospectus. “On average, health and life expectancy is worse than the England average, and locally there are big differences.

“People in some parts of Thanet live for 12.1 years less on average than those in other parts.

“Deprivation is higher than average and more than a quarter of the 29,000 children in Thanet live in poverty, higher than the rest of Kent.”

He stressed mental wellbeing, sexual health, drugs, alcohol and obesity all required attention.

In Swale, the CCG is running a Beats and Breathes scheme in partnership with Swale Borough Council, aiming to reduce early deaths from lung and heart diseases.

A spokesman told KoS: “Swale is the third most deprived district in Kent and has an average life expectancy of 79, the lowest of the eight CCG areas. It has increasing numbers of elderly people and an above average number of under-fives. Smoking and obesity are higher than average, and the rate of diabetes is joint highest in Kent with Thanet.

“The health commissioners have supported several road shows offering residents the chance of a free five-point health MoT. Team members suggest how making simple lifestyle changes, like giving up smoking or losing weight, can let them live longer, healthier lives.”

GP and chair of Swale CCG, Dr Fiona Armstrong, based at Grovehurst Surgery in Kemsley, has worked in Swale for 26 years.

“We are all passionate about improving the health and wellbeing of patients. Reducing health inequality is our priority,” she said.

But while the NHS and local authorities strive to turn things around, they are, at the same time, facing a constant battle to save money.

Over the next four years KCC must save £240 million. The huge figure comes in addition to the £340m it has already had to save.

While it vows to maintain frontline services, some contentious cutbacks have already been seen, including the closure of 23 of 97 children’s centres, aimed at saving £1.5m.

KCC cabinet member for specialist children’s services, Jenny Whittle, said: “We can’t achieve that saving without making some difficult decisions. It would be lovely to have a children’s centre in every village in Kent, but it’s not possible.”

She stressed the majority of families using the centres earmarked for closure also use another centre and that accessibility would remain “virtually the same” for 99 per cent of families.

But critics fear hard-to-reach families will slip off the radar and that government cuts will only make the problem worse.

Child Poverty Action Group’s Mr Nichols said: “In May, KCC published a child poverty strategy and it is good to see them putting together action plans. But they are stuck between a rock and a hard place as central government has made steep cuts to funding at the same time as cutting safety net support for the poorest families.

“We always put our children first in our families, but the government in Westminster is failing to put the nation’s children first.”

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### FOODBANKS

A big surge in the number of families using foodbanks – where food is donated to deprived families – in the county has been seen over the summer holidays as parents reliant on free schools meals struggle to feed their children.

The Trussell Trust, which has foodbanks in Medway and Gravesham, told us some parents are skipping meals to feed their children.

“The summer holidays can be particularly tough for low-income families as the need for additional food stretches finances to breaking point,” said a spokeswoman.

“Across the UK, Trussell Trust foodbanks are creating summer holiday emergency food schemes to help stop families going hungry.”



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## HEALTH

# Centre for sex abuse victims set to be unveiled in 'a matter of weeks'

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THE county's long-sought after 24-hour sexual assault referral centre could open in a matter of weeks – putting an end to sub-standard facilities for victims of sex abuse.

Organisations have for years been pushing for improved services in the form of a round-the-clock unit providing specialist support.

And it seems their work has not been in vain, with the clinic, known as SARC (sexual assault referral centre), set to open imminently.

So far, authorities are remaining tight-lipped over where it will be based, but Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner, Ann Barnes, confirmed it would be central.

Whispers are it could be in Maidstone and run independently, instead of from a hospital.

Previously, the only facility was at the Renton Clinic in Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford, but its facilities were described as "poor".

It was also only open from 9am to 4pm, meaning victims often had to wait before they could access crucial specialist support.

The facility closed recently, with interim measures in place, including victims of rape being dealt with at police safe houses, while details

are ironed out for the new SARC.

Mrs Barnes has always described it as "unacceptable" that a county the size of Kent does not have a first-class, round-the-clock clinic.

SARCs are a one-stop service, providing medical and forensic services for victims of sexual assault – including those who do not want to speak to the police – and offering help in the immediate aftermath of the attack.

Mrs Barnes said over the last few months partner agencies had been working together to look at future provisions.

"Whilst it came as a shock that the Darent Valley Hospital facility was to close it did galvanise partner agencies in conjunction with the NHS," she said. "We will be launching a countywide facility in the early autumn that will be based in a central location in the county."

"I made a promise Kent will have a sexual assault referral centre that meets all national standards and I always keep my promises."

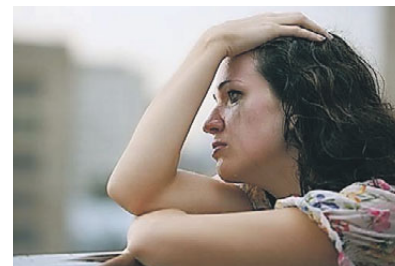
Kent-based rape crisis charity Family Matters, which provides counselling for victims of sexual assault, said it supports the drive to create a full, 24/7 SARC in the county which meets at least the minimum standards.

Operations director Malcolm Gil-

bert said: "The facilities at the Darent hospital were so poor that we do not regret their passing, indeed the fact it is closing has worked to the advantage to the women of Kent as

it has become a catalyst for well overdue change."

Mr Gilbert said the aspiration was for a high quality SARC in central Kent.



**ADVICE:** Sex assault victims will be able to access 24-hour support when the centre opens

## TRIBUTE

## Grieving family: We will miss and love her forever

A YOUNG woman killed after a car overturned near Dover in the early hours of last Saturday has been named as Emma Willis.

The 23-year-old, of Larch Road, Elvington, was a passenger in a blue Vauxhall Corsa which came off the road and turned over in a field beside Sandwich Road in Waldershare at 1.55am.

A keen football fan, she died just hours before the Premier League kicked off again.

In a statement, her family said: "We can't believe Emma has gone. She was always joking and laughing. Anyone who knew her will never meet anyone like her again."

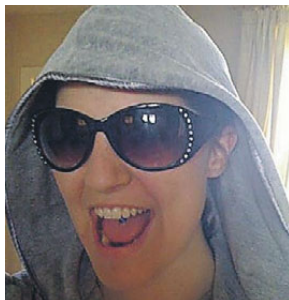
"She was looking forward to watching Liverpool play. As she said, it will be the only time they will be at the top of the league."

"We will always miss her and love her forever."

Four people were in the car at the time of the crash.

A 21-year-old man, also a passenger, was taken to King's College Hospital where his condition is described as critical but stable.

Kent Police has arrested four people in connection with the



**VICTIM:** Emma Willis

incident. The three men and a woman, all from the Dover area, have been interviewed and released on police bail while the investigation continues.

DS Scott Lynch, from Kent Police's serious collision investigation unit, said: "We believe the Corsa was in convoy with two other vehicles that night and I ask anyone who witnessed the actual collision or the manner in which the cars were being driven in the Elvington or Whitfield areas to contact us."

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## NATURE

# Range of wildlife gives estuary the

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT'S an unlikely contender for a thriving wildlife haven but the Thames Estuary is emerging as a natural wonder, brimming with a variety of species perhaps not expected in a metropolitan waterway.

Just this week, conservationists revealed the findings of a groundbreaking survey which uncovered a staggering 708 seals living around the estuary, along the south east Kent coastline and in creeks and rivers.

The extraordinary discovery by conservationists and volunteers at the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) was made following a widespread count from land, sea and air.

It was the first of its kind and will help experts monitor the health of the seal population, which is made up of two species in Kent; harbour and grey seals.

Marine conservationist Stephen Mowat, ZSL's Thames projects manager, said the large number spotted during the survey was good news.

"This is our baseline for monitoring the health of the population and will allow us to see any future declines," he said.

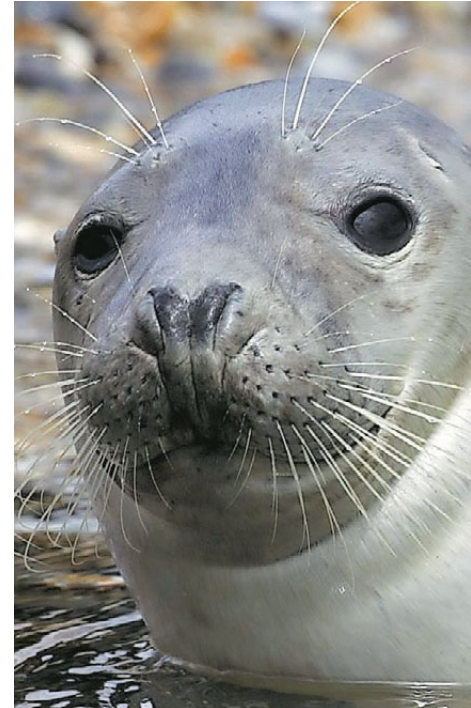
"This is the first time we've used the three types of methods; land, sea and air.

"A smaller survey has been carried out by the Kent Mammal Group, but this one really does provide comprehensive information.

"It seems that the population in Kent is fairly

**AT HOME:**

More than 700 seals were counted in the Thames Estuary, split into two species, harbour and grey seals



stable. You have the east coast, so colonies on the Goodwin Sands off Deal and Margate seals, and then you've got Medway and around that area. We covered the whole coast from the south east up north to Felixstowe."

The discovery of this huge number of seals adds to the diverse ecology of our county.

But experts say they will be carrying out further counts to ensure there is no drop in numbers. In Scotland, there has been a drastic decline in the number of harbour seals although the reasons are unclear.

Experts say it is important the animals have somewhere to haul-out, where they can digest their food, mate and give birth.

They must also have sufficient food in the form of a variety of fish species.

Mr Mowat added: "There are a large number of developments in the Thames Estuary and we

have to make sure they are managed carefully so as not to impact the seals."

ZSL's conservation scientist Joanna Barker said seal populations, like in Scotland, may also be vulnerable.

"This broad approach will produce the first complete count of harbour seals in the Thames and south east coast, so that we can accurately monitor the species to better understand and protect them," she said.

ZSL has also set up an interactive map showing where the seals were spotted and also allowing people to report their own sightings.

The recent survey coincided with the annual seal moult, when harbour seals shuffle onto sandbanks to shed their coat and grow a new layer in time for colder winter months, which made them easier to spot.

See [www.zsl.org/sealmap](http://www.zsl.org/sealmap) to see the map.

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CRIME

## Jail for vicious attack with 24cm Nepalese kukri knife

A THUG who attacked two teenagers, after a row outside a kebab house, with a 24cm blade, leaving both needing extensive medical treatment, has been jailed for seven years.

Hitendru Limbu, 21, of Quantock Drive, Ashford, attacked the two teenagers who had been enjoying a night out in the town in the early hours of April 16.

Friends Charlie Knight and Ashley Curtis, both 19 and from Ashford, first came across Limbu outside a kebab shop in the High Street in the early hours.

Words were said between Limbu and the two teenagers before a scuffle ensued and they separated. Thinking the argument had been settled, the two teenagers began to make their way home.

But a few minutes later, Limbu approached them and



**LOCKED UP:** Hitendru Limbu began attacking the pair with a Nepalese kukri knife with a 24cm length blade.

Mr Knight suffered cuts to his nose, chest and his arm and Mr Curtis suffered a wound to his hand.

Officers attended the scene and quickly located Limbu trying to hide his knife under a parked car. He was arrested

and charged with two offences of grievous bodily harm and possessing an offensive weapon.

Appearing at Canterbury Crown Court, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to seven years in prison.

Detective Inspector Louise Ludwig said: "This was a vicious attack with a knife on two unarmed teenagers enjoying a night out in Ashford. "Both victims suffered serious injuries when they were attacked by Limbu and as a result needed extensive hospital treatment.

"Limbu knew he had done wrong – trying to hide the weapon when officers attended the scene. It should be noted that he pleaded guilty, but this sentence shows violent crime has no place in our county and will not be tolerated."

WHAT ELSE CAN BE FOUND?

Research by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) has uncovered a rich variety of wildlife in the Thames Estuary, which stretches from Whitstable and along the north Kent coast towards London, showing dolphins, porpoises and seals as regular visitors. It is also a spawning and nursery ground for commercially important fish such as the Dover sole and seabass. In addition, the estuary's mudflats provide feeding grounds for internationally important migrant bird populations. ZSL said it has a number of projects in the estuary that studies and helps to conserve the area's diverse ecology.

SPOT A SEAL

If you're lucky, you could spy a seal popping its head up pretty much anywhere around the Kent coastline, but armed with a pair of binoculars, you should be able to spy colonies off Pegwell and Sandwich Bay in Thanet, and from Oare marshes, near Faversham, as well as in and around the Medway Estuary.



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## EDUCATION

# Ofsted report raises concern over children in care

But acknowledges efforts are being made to improve service to the young, writes **Marijke Cox**

MEDWAY Council's service for children in care has been deemed "inadequate" by Ofsted.

It comes seven months after inspectors found the authority's child protection service at the same low level, prompting a shake-up in the department and two former portfolio holders for children's services to be replaced.

This latest report examined 29 case files for children and young people with a range of needs. There are 400 looked-after children in Medway.

While inspectors deemed no looked-after children were at "immediate harm", they highlighted that for those entering and leaving care, not all cases had up-to-date risk factor assessments.

They stated that overall outcomes for children in care are poor in relation to emotional health and wellbeing, and educational achievement, with GCSE results vastly worse and a higher proportion of care leavers unemployed.

Inspectors highlighted delays in the completion of health inspections and nurses not being informed about looked-after children. A nurse shortage was also revealed.

It also stated that while the number of looked-after children is decreasing, numbers remain higher than similar sized local council areas and risk is not clearly or consistently identified or assessed by social workers.

Medway's outcome for looked-after children and young people was graded inadequate; quality of provision inadequate and leadership and management inadequate.

## GCSE STUDENTS BREAK NATIONAL TREND WITH IMPROVED EXAM RESULTS

Students were celebrating another year of excellent GCSE grades on Thursday, despite fears of "significant turbulence" in results due to grading reforms.

Early indications suggest GCSE results in Kent are the best ever, improving every year for the past 13 years.

According to local education authority Kent County Council, at least 66 per cent of the county's students achieved the key benchmark of five A\*-C grades, including English and maths – up four per cent on 2012. A\* and A grades were also maintained,



despite a decline nationally.

But perhaps what stood out the most was the number of schools in Kent reporting significant improve-

ments, bucking the national trend.

St Anselm's in Canterbury (pictured) saw a 19 per cent rise to 56 per cent in the number of

children reaching the benchmark compared to last year.

King Ethelbert's in Thanet was also celebrating with a staggering 24 per cent hike up to 54 per cent. Hillview School for Girls in Tonbridge achieved 69 per cent, up 20 per cent on last year's results, and in Gravesham, St John's Catholic School results were up to 66 per cent from last year's 44 per cent.

KCC said there had also been a significant reduction in the number of schools below the national floor standard of five A\*-C grades including English and maths.

The report graded capacity to improve, however, as adequate. Inspectors pointed out that Medway Council's staff and managers are working hard to make necessary improvements and the action to strengthen services is continuing.

They also acknowledged that the effects of changes being brought in by the director of children's services, Barbara Peacock, who started at the council last September, have not had enough time to impact the service.

Lead portfolio holder for children's services, Mike O'Brien, said the council is making "significant progress".

He said: "The council brought in a completely new top team when it realised that much work needed to be done to improve this area and we are pleased that Ofsted have recognised this."

Kent County Council was on Friday celebrating a "good" judgement from Ofsted for its commitment to improve children's services and an

"adequate" rating for the rest of the inspection.

In 2010, KCC came under fire after Ofsted found its child protection "inadequate" and in the worst cases, children had been left at significant risk of harm. Some 2,700 vulnerable children were found to be without a social worker.

The latest report said KCC had made "substantial strides forward" although highlighted its need to improve consistency in children's assessments.

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## FASHION

## Controversial artist Tracey Emin is picture perfect for big M&S autumn campaign

By Marijke Cox

[marijke.cox@archant.co.uk](mailto:marijke.cox@archant.co.uk)

SHE'S hardly the twin-set and pearls type; in fact she's more the anti-establishment artist than middle class do-gooder.

But Margate's Tracey Emin has been selected as one of the new faces of Marks & Spencer's autumn clothing collection campaign.

Billed by M&S as one of Britain's "leading ladies", she was shot by acclaimed photographer Annie Leibovitz alongside 11 other women, including Dame Helen Mirren, former University of Kent student turned chart star Ellie Goulding, Olympic gold medallist Nicola Adams and author Monica Ali.

The campaign looks to celebrate women from diverse backgrounds and professions as well as their strong sense of personal style.

For Ms Emin, who was nominated for the Turner Prize in 1999 for her controversial work *My Bed* – an installation consisting of her own unmade dirty bed with stained sheets, worn underwear and cigarette butts – it was important she still felt like herself when modelling.

"The important thing for me was I had to look like me," she said. "On the afternoon shoot when I went to meet the others after lunch, everyone thought I was wearing my own clothes, they didn't

realise I was actually modelling the M&S clothes.

"I felt really good about that as I think it's so important to feel and look yourself."

Ms Emin, who grew up in Margate, features alongside the others in four quintessentially British backdrops showcasing the collection.

M&S said: "Be it physical strength, dedication to helping others, overcoming adversity, or simply sheer determination to be the best they can, each woman is truly inspiring."

Creative director at M&S, Steve Sharp, added: "The British have a history of being creative and pioneering and these women represent just that. "As industry leaders in their field, they break boundaries, challenge stereotypes and create visionary artistic work."

"We too have broken boundaries throughout our history and it's this that has enabled us to bring together this remarkable group of people."

Last year, Ms Emin held her first major solo exhibition at Turner Contemporary, specially conceived for Margate, which provided inspiration for many of her most famous art works.

Other women in the M&S campaign include retired ballerina Darcey Bussell; creative director of US Vogue, Grace Coddington; supermodel and singer, Karen Elson; nurse Helen Allen; and CEO of Save the Children International, Jasmine Whitbread.

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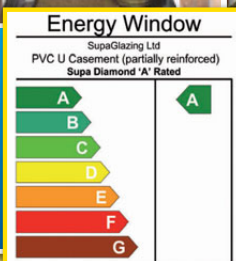
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## TRAVEL

# Station to shut for £19m refurbishment

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

GRAVESEND railway station is to close for more than two weeks later this year as it undergoes a £19 million upgrade.

The work is the final stage of a major programme to accommodate longer 12-car trains across the Southeastern network, providing up to 3,500 extra seats for passengers at peak times.

But it will mean the busy station closes for 15 days over the Christmas and New Year period.

The closure – between December 22 and January 6 – is needed to enable the complicated track layout changes and main station construction work to take place.

Rail infrastructure firm Network Rail and train operator Southeastern have vowed to minimise the impact of the improvement work and say a replacement bus service will be in place for connections to high speed services at nearby Ebbsfleet.

Passengers will also be diverted on to Cannon Street and Victoria-bound services for the duration of the works.

Full details of the route changes will be published later this year.

Fiona Taylor, Network Rail's route managing director for Kent, said: "While passenger numbers on the railway increase year-on-year, we continue to invest to provide the facilities and capacity to meet this demand. Gravesend station will be vastly improved and the reconstructed



## UPGRADE:

Gravesend railway station will shut for 15 days at Christmas to enable major works to take place ahead of longer train carriages being brought in to use

platforms will mean longer trains can be accommodated, providing more seats for passengers.

"It is a complicated project which requires the station to be closed for 15 days to carry out the work to the track and station. We recognise this will cause some disruption to passengers and we have timed the work to take place over what is traditionally a less busy time on the railway.

"We are working closely with Southeastern to minimise the impact as much as possible and I am confident the long-term benefits to passengers will outweigh the short-term disruption."

Passengers will benefit from what is described as "a brighter and more pleasant station with improved facilities". The station will be fully accessible and a new footbridge, with lifts, will provide step-free access to all platforms.

To accommodate the longer trains, an additional platform will also be built.

Funding for the project is coming from the government's Access for All programme and Network Rail.

Sarah Boundy, head of customer services for Southeastern said: "We welcome the project at Gravesend which will enable us to run longer trains to meet the demand for our services.

"Our priority however, while the works are under way over the Christmas and New Year period, is to ensure customers using our services through Gravesend are still able to make their journeys. We're currently looking at all our options to best manage the service during the blockade, and as soon as we have more detailed plans we will be sharing them with passengers."

## VICTORIA TO CLOSE

Rail travellers are being warned to be aware of closures to Victoria station in London this weekend.

The mainline terminal will be closed to Southeastern services due to engineering work between Victoria and Brixton on Sunday, August 25, and Bank Holiday Monday, August 26.

As a result of this work, there are no Southeastern train services calling at Victoria or Brixton stations, with all Metro train services diverted to operate from London Blackfriars, calling additionally at Elephant & Castle; and all mainline services diverted to operate from Cannon Street calling additionally at London Bridge.

Passengers for Victoria can travel between Blackfriars, London Bridge or Cannon Street by London Underground services.

Passengers for Brixton can travel between Victoria and Brixton, and also by London Underground services.

Valid train tickets will be accepted for travel, in either direction, and by any reasonable route between Blackfriars, Brixton, Cannon Street, Elephant & Castle, London Bridge and Victoria underground stations.

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## COMMUNITY

# Regulars get chance to pull together in bid to save their local from supermarket development

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A PUB faced with closure and demolition to make way for a supermarket, has been saved – for the time being – after the community came to its support.

The Medway Queen in Chatham was built in 1967, but faced closure earlier this summer – the latest victim of the economic gloom.

Closure would have almost certainly have seen it knocked down and replaced with houses and shops – with the pub's owners confirming supermarket giant Morrisons was interested in the site.

But now the pub has been granted community asset status by Medway Council – a new law which affords the building special protection – thanks largely to a backlash from residents and councillors.

It is the first successful Community Right to Bid project in Medway. The new law allows the community to take ownership of assets they deem to be important.

They can then do battle with any rivals on an equal footing to take permanent ownership.



The council said residents have been in favour of the Medway Queen being granted community asset status because they don't want it to be turned into a convenience store.

If that happened, it could also have a knock-on effect on shops in nearby Luton High Street and The Links.

A spokesman for Medway Council said: "The pub's nomination clearly demonstrated the current use of land does further the social wellbeing and interests of the community and that such use will continue in the future."

"The application and supporting

evidence, which included 36 letters from the community, demonstrated the Medway Queen hosts live music, sponsors a football team, regularly hosts private functions including weddings and birthday parties, has a beer garden that is regularly used, screens live sports, has pool and darts facilities.

"Several disabled patrons regularly attend the pub to socialise and remain integrated in the community. It also regularly raises funds for charities and local issues."

Morrisons, which says it has not

submitted a planning application to Medway Council, said: "When we look for sites we're always looking to invest in and regenerate the area."

"Our stores bring jobs and provide the community with a convenient way of picking up fresh food. We are aware the Medway Queen pub has been registered as an asset of community value and are reviewing our options to bringing a Morrisons M Local to Chatham."

Vince Maple, leader of the Medway Labour group, said: "This announcement is great news. Although this

## WHAT IS COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID?

According to the Government, it gives community groups a fairer chance to prepare and bid to buy community buildings and facilities that are important to them.

This can include village shops, pubs, community centres, libraries and allotments, and stretches to private and public assets.

Local authorities are required to keep a list of all of these 'assets of

community value'. If an owner of a listed asset wants to sell it they have to notify the local authority. The authority then, in turn, has to notify any interested parties.

If local groups are interested in buying the asset they have six months to prepare a bid before the asset can be sold.

The Community Right to Bid came into effect last September.

doesn't safeguard it outright, it does give the community additional rights when it comes to the pub's future."

Sam Craven, Labour member for Luton and Wayfield, added: "This pub is not just a place to drink, it is a community hub for people to meet friends and build a social life. This shows real communities working together."

Owners Enterprise Inns confirmed it is up for sale and under community asset rules, has to wait six months to see whether the community can snap it up, or Morrisons may possibly complete the sale.



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## NATURE

# Relative of deadly black widow in our homes

Joe Bill looks at the spider capable of delivering a painful little bite...

UTTER the name black widow spider to most, and a shiver will trickle down their spine as they recoil at the thought of a little arachnid with a bite powerful enough to kill.

But while the infamous creature is not found in the UK – preferring the likes of Mexico, Australia and the Middle East – did you know its poisonous cousin lives here in Kent?

Known as the false widow spider, it can give a painful nip and is currently the most venomous spider in Britain. The good news, however, is that it is not deadly.

Called false widows because of the close likeness to their killer cousins, they are six to 10mm in size with purplish-brown abdomens and long, dark legs.

One recent discovery was made at an office in Canterbury, where care worker Ben Taylor found the spider behind a bookcase. He was so surprised to see such an unusual spider he sought expert advice.

He explained to KOS: "It was quite a shock to see. They look pretty dangerous so I covered it with a jar and sent a picture to the Natural History Museum who identified it.

"After they told me it was a false widow I carefully let it go outside."

The Natural History Museum often receives calls from the public concerned that they have found a black widow when in fact they have found its British relatives.

A spokesman said: "The false widow has colonised England, Wales and Ireland and is widespread in northern Europe. They are usually found in houses, but occasionally in sheltered spots outside. They prefer hidden areas near the ground, under furniture, where they hunt for crawling insects."

The most violent reaction to a false widow bite recorded saw the victim have chest pains and swelling of fingers but most just see redness and swelling around the bite.

The NHM spokesman said: "Adult females are capable of biting humans but the smaller males are not



## FALSE WIDOW BITE?

- 1 Clean the bite with mild soap and water, most of complications are from secondary infections.
- 2 Apply a cold pack and elevate the affected body part to slow the venom's spread.
- 3 Painkillers can relieve irritation but the only chemical treatment to apply is antihistamine cream on the wound, as you would if stung by a bee or wasp.
- 4 The worst that can happen, and you must keep an eye on, is possible anaphylactic reaction, in which case seek medical help.

Source: Natural History Museum

## KENT'S BRUSH WITH THE MOST DEADLY



■ In 2004, a man in Broadstairs was bitten by a huntsman spider which crawled out of a pack of bananas in Tesco. Although not poisonous, the man needed hospital treatment for an allergic reaction to the bite.



■ In 2011 a deadly black widow spider was found at Chatham dockyard. It was later found to be pregnant with up to 700 eggs and was given to London Zoo.

■ In 2008, the world's deadliest arachnid, the highly venomous Brazilian wandering spider, was found under a box of bananas in a Chatham supermarket. Victims die within an hour of being bitten and the RSPCA had to put it down as it was deemed too dangerous.



known to cause bites. Reports from those bitten describe pain and a degree of swelling in the affected part. Symptoms may last for a couple of days but the effect is unlikely to be more serious; however, if symptoms persist seek medical attention.

"False widow spiders are not aggressive. They bite when accidentally trapped between skin and clothes – be careful when putting on boots that have been left unused, as spiders may hide in those."

It is believed the species found its

way to England from the Canary Islands about 100 years ago and has long been established in Devon before spreading along the coast.

The Natural History Museum also believes climate change and milder winters could see the species spread further inland.

For Robin Rigby, studying the tiny creatures and recording their habits on his website Spiders in a Kent Garden has become a hobby.

Mr Rigby, from Gillingham, insists they are fascinating creatures.

He said: "The thing I tell the children is, if you walk down the street do you bite the pavement?"

"Spiders are not going to bite unless they think they have a chance of killing and eating the object."

According to the NHM, more than 90 per cent of bites are caused by just 12 of around 700 UK spider species. The museum records spider bites and estimates less than 100 cases take place each year.

■ Visit [www.arachnology.org.uk](http://www.arachnology.org.uk) for details on spiders in Kent.



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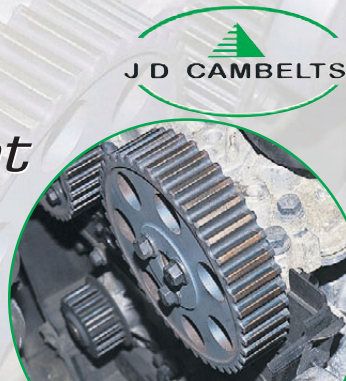
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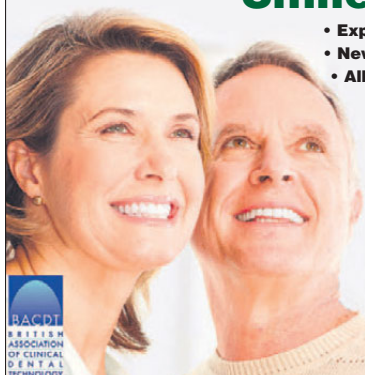
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## CONTEST

# Deadline to nominate for our top food and drink awards is looming

By Joe Bill

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

TIME is running out to enter your favourite food and drink outlets and products in the inaugural Kent on Sunday and Kent Life Food & Drink Awards 2013.

The new awards are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to the good and the great from the county's food and drink industry, including local producers and suppliers, small farming businesses, chefs, restaurants, pubs and hoteliers.

Already, we've had a strong response from readers and with the closing date for nominations this Friday, we're calling for a last push ahead of the judging process getting under way.

Simon Irwin, publisher of both Kent on Sunday and Kent Life, said: "Since we launched this competition earlier this year, we've had a really great response.

"Kent on Sunday and its sister title Kent Life have long celebrated the best produce and restaurants that the county has to offer, and



these awards will recognise the high standards that continue to be set.

"But we want to make sure they

really reflect everyone's views – so we are asking everyone who hasn't yet voted to take a few moments to do so.



"The companies nominated will all be voted for by you, our readers. We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or have been impressed by the produce and service at a farmers' market or farm shop."

Entry forms are available in this newspaper and this month's Kent Life magazine or get them online at <http://bit.ly/1883zcW>. Or click on the link on our home page – [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk).

Entries close on Friday, August 30, 2013.

All finalists will be invited to the prestigious awards ceremony at the Tudor Park Hotel in Maidstone on November 14, where they will enjoy a Champagne reception and three-course meal based on locally-sourced produce.

■ Find out more and see what categories are up for grabs – see the Kent Weekend section.

## HEALTH

## Government to decide on mental health beds

PLANS to shut acute mental health beds at Medway Maritime Hospital's ageing A-block are to be referred to health secretary Jeremy Hunt.

It follows concerns by Medway Council chiefs after plans by Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) were approved by Kent and Medway NHS' joint overview and scrutiny committee earlier this month.

The NHS trust wants to close A-block with in-patient provision instead increased at Canterbury, Dartford and Maidstone, and investment made in community services.

While bosses at the trust stated that "rigorous checks" had been carried out to ensure the remaining three units could cope with increased demand, Medway Council expressed concern.

This is despite A-block being described as "very poor in design and location".

A public consultation into services was carried out last year.

Wendy Purdy, lead on the NHS committee at Medway, warned that closure of acute mental-health services could place vulnerable people at risk.

The matter was considered at a meeting of Medway's health and adult social care overview and scrutiny committee on Tuesday night in which members made the decision to refer the matter to the health secretary.



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## DECANTER AWARDS 2013

## Gold

Chapel Down Rose Brut NV • Chapel Down Chardonnay Reserve 2010  
• Chapel Down Blanc de Blancs 2007 • Gusbourne Estate Guinevere 2011 • Hush Heath Estate Balfour Brut Rosé 2010

## Silver

Chapel Down Pinot Reserve 2006 • Chapel Down Three Graces 2008  
• Gusbourne Estate Brut Reserve 2008 • Gusbourne Estate Rosé 2009 • Hush Heath Estate Balfour Brut Rosé 2009 • Meopham Valley Rosé 2009

## Bronze

Chapel Down Bacchus Reserve 2011 • Chapel Down Vintage Reserve Brut NV • Gusbourne Estate Blanc de Blancs 2008 • Limney Horsmonden 2011

## Commended

Gusbourne Estate Pinot Noir 2010 • Meopham Valley Brut 2008

## BUSINESS

## Winemaker raises glass to £4m expansion plans

## Joe Bill on firm's ambitious vineyard and brewery scheme

AWARD-WINNING wine maker Chapel Down has secured more than £4 million of funding to bankroll major expansion plans – including establishing a new brewery in the county and planting more vineyards.

The Tenterden-based operation has already established a global reputation with its top quality English wines – grown in Kent – and landed a host of top international awards.

Most recently it won a clutch of medals at the Decanter World Wine Awards.

Now it hopes the cash injection from investment firms will help propel it to a new level.

Frazer Thompson is chief executive officer of the firm.

He explained: "Our ambition is to become Europe's most exciting drinks company. So this is a big part of the journey that takes us towards that.

"The reason we think this is a possibility is that we are already making world class wine.

"To win three gold medals at the Decanter World Wine Awards might sound quite good but when you think there are only 229 gold medals awarded in the world and we won three of them, well, I think we are already proving we can make great wine."

The group has also taken home global awards for its popular Curious Brew beer and will be looking to expand both the brand and the workforce with the new facility.

Adds Mr Thompson: "That is selling really well. When you have two great products like the wine and beer, we want to expand and grow the business faster.

"To do that we needed to raise the money – to plant more vineyards and



firmed, although it will be in the county. It will not be at the current Tenterden winery, however. The company will also expand its vineyards into Sussex and Essex.

The company already supplies some of the country's best-known chefs, including Gordon Ramsay and Jamie Oliver, as well as leading retailers like M&S, Morrisons, Marks and Spencer, Waitrose, Selfridges and Harvey Nichols.

Much like firmly established Faversham brewers Shepherd Neame, Chapel Down has also made a name for itself abroad by exporting its drinks to countries including Japan, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Holland, Canada and France.

But Mr Thompson, who joined Chapel Down in 2001, isn't too concerned about having to compete with their Kent counterparts.

He said: "The only things we really compete with Shepherd Neame on is probably their premium lagers, which are all foreign. Their Sam Adams Boston Lager; why on Earth they felt the need to go to America to brew a great beer I have no idea.

"I don't really feel we are competing with Shepherd Neame who are predominantly a pub owner rather than a brewer. So we are not really thinking about them, we are looking at what Chapel Down can achieve."

■ Other Kent winners at the Decanter World Wine Awards – which were originally announced in May, with a special presentation evening taking place next month in London – include Appledore-based Gusbourne Estate, Staplehurst's Hush Heath Estate, Meopham Valley, and Limney Horsmonden (see top left).



**GROWING:** Chapel Down is focusing on make in-roads in the European market

get more fruit to make more wine. Secondly, we need to build a brewery to enable us to brew more beer.

"We are a Kent-based company and we think there is an advantage in us being in the county so we would be delighted to employ more people from Kent in those new operations."

The brewery site has yet to be con-

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## ENVIRONMENT

# Hit squad determined to keep town spotless

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THEY'VE been dubbed the A-Team – ready to respond at a moment's notice to tackle problems – and one borough is already hoping they will prove the secret weapon in the fight to keep its town centre spic and span.

This week saw the launch of T-CAT – or Town Centre Action Team – a four-strong do-it-all squad to ensure shoppers and visitors to Ashford never see a dirty path or broken road sign.

And the council leader believes it could be the key to economic success.

The team will ensure the streets are clean, signs are repaired, benches are not broken, perform minor maintenance works, paint and refurbish street furniture, and take care of any problems with barriers, bollards, signs, bins and bus stops. And pretty much everything and anything else that's needed.

Council leader Gerry Clarkson told this paper: "This is unique in Kent. We want to make our town centre a great place to visit. The T-CAT team can be called in at a moment's notice and take on almost any quick job that needs doing. Having a nice town centre will boost the local economy and make traders proud of their town."

Stressing that the authority is not us-



**A-TEAM:** The Town Centre Action Team will be on hand to get done whatever jobs need doing

ing money secured under the Mary Portas scheme for the project, Cllr Clarkson said: "The budget for this is small, but its effect will more than pay for itself."

"The technicians will be multi-skilled to clean and repair things."

"After training, they will even carry a defibrillator to deal with anyone who perhaps has a heart attack. They will be in a high-vis van with a loud-speaker so they can address people if necessary."

"The team will be in the town centre predominantly, but will be on call to go to other areas if required."

"I think it will be cost-effective because it will make the town more attractive and more people will spend their money. That means more businesses opening, and more rates coming in."

Ashford is determined to ride out the current economic slump and ensure it is

fighting fit for when the recovery begins in earnest.

Cllr Clarkson said the town's popular designer outlet centre is set to double in size bringing in seven million people a year, and hinted at a raft of other revelations to help boost Ashford, including a new country park and an update to its athletics stadium.

He told us: "These are exciting times for this town – people will be very proud to live and work here."

T-CAT will also cover general care to the council's gardens, de-icing pavements and snow clearance, and will have some enforcement powers.

A June meeting of cabinet members agreed the budget for the first financial year would be £120,000, to include lease of the vehicle, salaries of the four team members and maintenance costs.



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## EDUCATION

# Dick and Dom in da power station

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

POPULAR children's TV presenters, Dick and Dom filmed scenes for their new show at Dungeness B power station last week.

The popular duo – who shot to fame in Bafta-winning Saturday morning BBC show *Dick and Dom in Da Bungalow* – were at the site for the latest series of a CBBC science programme.

Absolute Genius with Dick and Dom explores the lives, inventions, and legacies of a number of great inventors, scientists, engineers and pioneers from history, aimed at six to 12-year-olds.

The duo – full names Richard McCourt and Dominic Wood – were in Kent to help film for a programme which explores nuclear power.

Dungeness B station director Martin Pearson said: "It was great to welcome CBBC to the station and provide an insight into how we safely generate power for 1.5million homes."

The presenters were filmed in the control room simulator, a replica of the real control room on site, where Dave Norris and Steve Thompson from the station training team ran through how to start up a nuclear reactor.

They also had a special tour of the station taking in the reactor hall, turbine

## DUNGENESS B STATS:

**1.5 million**

Homes supplied with power

**2**

Reactors

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Construction cost

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Due for decommission

bine hall and visitor centre, to learn about the process of fission and how it has been used at Dungeness B to generate power on the coast for 30 years.

The programme is set to be broadcast later this year.

■ After several years of closure, the power station's visitor centre is open from 9am-4pm Monday to Friday.

The majority of the tours will be organised for schools and educational groups. However, the public can attend by appointment.



ON TELEVISION: Dick and Dom in the Dungeness B reactor hall

## HISTORY

## Restored carriage to be opened by film star

AFTER years of pain-staking restoration, Folkestone's 1890 step-lift carriage – which once worked up and down the Leas on the seaside town – will be unveiled at its new home next weekend.

The carriage has been stored in the courtyard of the Grand Hotel since March 2011 as attempts to find a display site came to nothing.

But now it has been given a permanent home at Elham Valley Railway Museum in Newington.

To unveil it will be Kenneth Colley – the actor best known for portraying Admiral Firmus Piett in *Star Wars* movies the *Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*, as well as Jesus in *Monty Python's classic Life of Brian*.

Now living in Hythe, the 75-year-old will unveil the carriage at noon on August 31.

A Victorian bath chair, which was part of the same era, will be displayed beside the 123-year-old iconic step-lift carriage.

Robert Moulton, former fundraiser and treasurer, said: "This truly is to be an historic day for Folkestone's heritage as so much of the past in this town has been swept aside and replaced with Legoland construction."

The public are welcome at the free event.



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## News

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## SPORT

# Club unveils ground scheme at cricket week

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

CRICKET fans flocked to one of the traditional highlights of the season as Canterbury Cricket Week got started.

With the Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence ringed by marquees, fans watched the club take on Gloucestershire in a County Championship match, rounded-off by what is expected to be a well-attended 40-overs clash against Nottinghamshire on Bank Holiday Monday.

Meanwhile, away from their Canterbury headquarters, Kent are to embark on a building project at their Beckenham ground which will see a 2,000 seater stand and training facilities built. It follows club bosses and Leander Sports & Leisure exchanging contracts for the development of the Worsley Bridge Road ground (below).



Pictures: ADY KERRY

The Beckenham ground has not hosted any of Kent's first team action this term, with budget cuts forcing the county to partially withdraw facilities

at the venue earlier this year, with a view to reinstating them in the future. The county has long hoped to redevelop the ground, having taken it over in 2002.

The work will include an indoor cricket school to be built to ECB Academy standards, spectator seating for more than 2,000, and a new stand. There will also be physiotherapy treatment rooms, a gym and pilates studio.

On the non-cricketing side there will be a conference and banqueting area to seat 160 people with a bar and kitchen facilities.

Kent Cricket chief executive Jamie Clifford said: "We have been committed to developing a high quality ground in Beckenham for over a decade. This latest advance will allow us to truly state that we have a centre of excellence in a key part of the county."

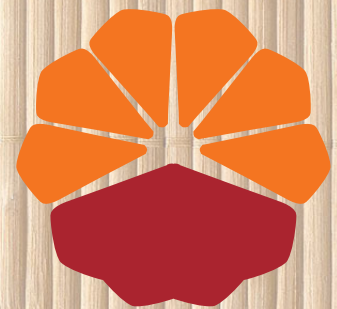
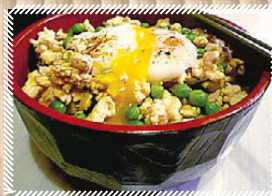


**ON A RUN:** Cricket week at the Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence. Far left is the soon to be improved cricket ground at Beckenham

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# Press release GCSE results 2012/13

Once again, our students' attainment at GCSE was outstanding, reflecting the hard work of our pupils and the careful support and guidance our staff have given them.



We were particularly pleased to see that 38% of our students achieved five or more A\* and A grades and 36% of total entries were awarded an A\*/A grade. As the Norton Knatchbull School is a Language and Science College, we are also delighted that 93% of our students achieved two

or more A\*-C grades in Science and 65% achieved one or more A\*-C grade in a Modern Foreign Language. Our students also did exceptionally well in Mathematics, achieving a 100% pass rate overall, and 55% achieving A\* or A grades.

A number of our students have obtained exceptional results and deserve a special mention:

10 A\* grades, 2 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: Mohit Dhiman;

9 A\* grades, 3 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: Ben Balzan;

8 A\* grades, 4 A grades, 1 B grade and a Merit in DiDA: Daniel Curry;

8 A\* grades, 2 A grades, 1 C grade and a Merit in DiDA: Michael Ciccone;

7.5 A\* grades, 4 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: Samuel Barkaway



and Jimmy Parton;

7 A\* grades, 5 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: Charlie Mearles-Pay;

6.5 A\* grades, 5 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: Sangharsh Shrestha;

6 A\* grades, 4.5 A grades, 1 B grade and a Merit in DiDA: Mark Hanham;

6 A\* grades, 4 A grades, 1 B grade and a Credit in DiDA: James O'Donoghue;

5.5 A\* grades, 4 A grades, 1 B grade and a Merit in DiDA: Oliver Rose;

5 A\* grades, 8 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: James Carlton;

5 A\* grades, 7 A grades, 1 B grade and a Credit in DiDA: Nimai Jivan-Frier;

5 A\* grades, 7 A grades and a Merit in DiDA: Daniel Pallant.

***Many congratulations to all of our Year 11 students and a huge "thank you" to all members of staff who helped to make these results happen. We wish all our students the very best in the future.***

The Norton Knatchbull School is a popular and highly regarded selective school for boys aged 11-18 which admits a growing number of girls into its Sixth Form. Having proudly served the local community of Ashford in Kent since the 17th century, we combine traditional values with a forward-looking and vibrant learning environment where young people are nurtured to become considerate, confident and well-rounded individuals.

***"There are so many extra-curricular activities...I've lost count...all of which are superb."*** Yr 7 student



We provide an atmosphere in which all our students feel supported and inspired to strive for their personal best. Our approach to academic study is varied, disciplined and fosters a life-long love of learning. We value community and celebrate diversity. As a result, our young people are able to make informed and positive life choices, and are equipped to face



the challenges of a fast-changing, competitive and increasingly global environment.

We are proud of our track record of strong examination results, the wealth of our extra-curricular provision and the strength of our careers education, advice and guidance. We benefit from a wide range of facilities which support learning in a variety of disciplines, styles and environments. Our specialisms model innovation and best practice across the school

and maintain productive links with local schools and the wider national and international community.

Our students are supported by a team of highly qualified, hard-working and caring teaching and support and a well informed and supportive Governing Body, all of whom are united in their desire to achieve the best possible outcomes for all.

***"There is no problem too small - you will always be listened to."*** Yr 13 student





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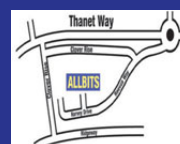
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## KENT REMEMBERED



# The mystery that anchored Nelson within city's walls

By Claire Slater

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ADMIRAL Lord Horatio Nelson had many connections with the county, perhaps most notably his flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, HMS Victory, was built at Chatham and launched there in 1765.

Another ship which fought at Trafalgar, the Temeraire, immortalised in JMW Turner's painting, was built at Chatham in 1798 and eventually broken up in the Thames, where some of her timbers survive in St Mary's Church, Rotherhithe.

Much of the gunpowder for Nelson's battles would have come from Faversham and the Oare Gunpowder Works, while Lord Nelson also reputedly paid off his crew at the Three Tuns pub in Faversham.

But the strangest connection of all is with Nelson's flagship of the Mediterranean fleet from 1799-1801, the Foudroyant. From early in the 20th century, until the building of the ring-road in 1968, the ship's capstan was displayed in the moat under Canterbury's city walls. The capstan, which consisted of a wooden drum or barrel mounted on an iron axle, and with horizontal bars for men to push the drum round, was used to wind in or lower the anchor chain on a ship.

HMS Foudroyant launched at Plymouth in 1798 and from there sailed to Canada, then back to join the Mediterranean fleet in the wars against France.

At Palermo in June 1799, Captain Thomas Hardy, who was later to be the captain of Victory at Trafalgar, took over command of the Foudroyant



**REMARKABLE:** Top: the capstan of HMS Foudroyant in the moat at Canterbury, taken in May 1968. Nelson met Lady Hamilton while docked at Naples, later sailing with her

and the following day Lord Nelson hoisted his admiral's flag on board.

Over the following months, Foudroyant was involved in the efforts of the British, Portuguese and Russian forces to return the Neapolitan royal family to their throne. After a successful campaign, the Sicilian king returned to the Bay of Naples and raised his royal standard on the Foudroyant. During this time, while the ship was in Naples Harbour, Nelson began his famous affair with Emma, Lady Hamilton.

Nelson was back on board Foudroyant at Palermo on January 15, 1800, and she sailed on to Livorno where she received salutes from Russian, Danish and Neapolitan ships.

On June 3, the Neapolitan king and queen again boarded Foudroyant, accompanied by Sir William Hamilton and his wife Emma. Two weeks later Nelson left the ship to travel to England by land, and Foudroyant was sailed to Plymouth for repairs. She became the guard ship at the dock until about

1860 and then from 1862-84 she was a gunnery training vessel. The ship was eventually sold out of the navy in 1892 for £2,350, bought and resold to be broken up, creating a wave of public protest.

She was then bought by Joseph Wheatley Cobb to use as a boys' training vessel. To raise money to restore the ship, it was decided to exhibit her at various seaside resorts.

In 1897 she was towed to Blackpool, where on June 16 a violent storm put her aground. Her crew of 27 were all successfully rescued.

Unsuccessful attempts were made to re-float her, with her guns being removed before the wreck finally broke up in the winter gales of that year.

Wood from her wreck was used to make furniture and also wall-panelling for Blackpool Football Club's boardroom, while the ship's bell is now in Blackpool Town Hall. The ship's capstan ended up in the Dane John Moat in Canterbury, brought there by city benefactor and mayor, Francis Bennett-Goldney.

Bennett-Goldney was Mayor of Canterbury in 1905, 1906 and 1912. The city moat had previously been a cabbage patch and rubbish dump, but he had the moat cleared, turfed and landscaped with trees and shrubs.

The mayor said in his official guide to Canterbury, which was published in 1912, that he had given the capstan to the city. It was joined over the years by a pair of millstones and a World War One tank, which was taken for scrap during the next war.

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## Comment & Opinion

for more pictures and news go to [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk)

OPINION

# Exam results bring relief

Medway Council's lead portfolio holder for children's services, **Mike O'Brien**, is proud of the achievements of the area's young people

ANOTHER year, another fantastic set of results for students across the county.

Results days are exciting, but also an anxious time for all students and their families. I know all our Medway students work incredibly hard to achieve good A Level and GCSE results and I am delighted their dedication has paid off.

I would like to congratulate all of our students, their families and staff for their achievements and hard work this year. Many of our schools' sixth form pupils have achieved their best results both at A Level and in vocational qualifications and are well placed for the next stage in their careers.

The Howard School in Rainham achieved its best ever results, with more students achieving A and A\* grades. Students were also celebrating at St John Fisher Catholic School in Chatham, which saw

its best ever results, continuing a four-year improvement trend.

Over the coming weeks and months all who have received their results this summer will be moving on to the next stage and I'd wish each one of them every success in whichever path they choose.

Nearly 5,000 Medway students sat their GCSE and A Levels at the start of the summer. For many, their results could lead to a place at university, college, training or employment.

And students don't have to travel far to attend university. We're lucky in Medway to have four universities – University of Kent, University of Greenwich, University of Creative Arts and Canterbury Christ Church University.

Currently, more than 12,000 students are already studying a range of courses including law, sports science, nursing, teaching, journalism and fashion.

Medway also boasts one of the largest further education establishments in Kent – Mid-Kent College – which offers an extensive range of courses.

But if the world of work beckons, there are lots of options for our students.

Medway Council continues to invest in apprenticeships. The authority also continues to work with Job Centre Plus and its flexible support fund, and the GAPS scheme, which offers small to medium sized businesses funding towards an apprentice. And of course, Medway is also perfectly placed for commuting to London, with all the opportunities the capital has to offer.

For pupils whose results may not be as good as hoped, don't panic. Take time to assess the situation before doing anything hasty.

Equally, if your results are better than expected, those stu-



“”

**For pupils whose results may not be as good as hoped, don't panic**

dents may want to rethink their options.

Help and advice is available from tutors and Medway Connections at Medway Youth Trust. MYT offices are located at 24 High Street, Gillingham, and are open from 10am to 2pm every Saturday.

Parents and students can also call the results freephone helpline on 0800 046 7603 until September 10 or visit [www.medwayyouthtrust.org](http://www.medwayyouthtrust.org) for advice.

MYT's personal advisors can be contacted on 01634 334343 and students can also text 'Medway' to 88020 and an advisor will call back.

Students are urged to contact admissions teams at colleges and universities if their results do not meet the conditional offer grades to discuss whether they can be accepted onto the course or be offered an alternative.

## KOS COMMENT

Poverty issue one we cannot afford to ignore

A POPULAR complaint in the west of the county – where, many argue, the county's real wealth resides amid the picture postcard villages and impressive architecture – is that the perception of affluence prevents it from ever securing the help it needs to help ease the pockets of deprivation.

And it's fair to say the rest of the county more often than not finds itself tarred by the same perception brush.

But the reality is that despite all the many wonderful things about this county, there are areas which must not be ignored; which need investment and support.

Only by acknowledging the issues and addressing them, can the county avoid the pitfalls of poverty.

## Double-edged sword

IT IS heartening to see, after years of steady decline, house prices moving up once again.

For many it eases the fear of negative equity and could breathe new life into the economy.

But spare a thought to those trying to get on the ladder – now it's even tougher.

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## Letters/emails/twitter

**Lightning on the Medway**  
by Wesley Wren,  
Gillingham



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## Don't privatise Royal Mail

I write in response to the letter published in KOS August 11, entitled Royal Mail will still deliver. Does the writer think we all believe what he says?

If Royal Mail is privatised, is the service going to be the same? Who is going to buy it? A British or foreign company? Can it still be called Royal Mail and will stamps have the Queen's head on them?

He says a six-day-a-week, one price goes anywhere, affordable, universal service will remain unchanged, protected by law. That's all right until the law is changed. No foreign company will take any notice of our laws, especially if the EU gets involved.

The quality at the moment is poor and the affordability

too high. Not many people send letters these days including postcards. Who is going to pay 25p for a card and put a 50p stamp on it? Stamps used to be cheaper than a postcard, now it's the other way round.

Most of the mail we get now is junk mail, which goes straight in the bin.

The writer says Royal Mail will continue to offer good value for money. Continue? When are they going to start?

Today we get first and second class mail delivered at the same time and in the afternoon. I remember when we had three deliveries a day, the first early in the morning.

As for workers, they will have a fight on their hands. Not all Government-owned companies have flourished under private ownership, at least not for the consumer.

**Peter Nassan, Chatham**

## Re-structure rail service

IT'S good to know Kent MPs are complaining to the Government about the rail fare price hikes (KOS, last week).

And right to do so they are, because in the six-year period from January 2008 to January 2014, when the current increase becomes effective, the cost of tickets will have grown by 40 per cent, while the average Kent commuter has received pay increases totalling just 15 per cent.

Every year, millions in fare income is wasted paying for the structural inefficiencies introduced into the industry when our railways were privatised in 1993.

Sir Roy McNulty, in his 2011 report Releasing the Potential of GB Rail, highlight-

ed the inefficiencies as one of the main reasons our rail network is the most expensive in Europe. However, one thing Sir Roy and our Kent MPs downplay is the billions syphoned off from our railway industry in the 20 years since its privatisation, in profits and shareholder dividends, by the companies who have their tentacles around this critical public service.

The Green Party believes it's time to put public need before private greed. We must transform our rail industry into a fit-for-purpose, cost effective organisation which is publically owned.

More people are seeing the sense in this idea. The TUC and many of its affiliated unions back a publically-owned rail industry. A recent report by think tank Transport for Quality of Life also demonstrates that a re-struct-

ured, publically owned railway would, even allowing for increased investment and improvements, be cheaper to run and cost less to use than our unwieldy system.

Public ownership of our railways and the resulting affordable fares would make a major contribution to the national economy, not to mention the environment, as more people left their cars at home.

It would also do away with the annual summer sport of complaining about fare increases, allowing our MPs to enjoy their summer recess without interruption.

**Ian Driver, Thanet District Council and Kent Green Party**

## Trains cost us all money

YOUR article on rail costs missed one important cost; the

cost to us all! Southeastern receives a 13p government subsidy for every passenger mile. Nationally, about £4 billion is paid to these train operating subsidy junkies, while car drivers put into the Treasury coffers about £48 billion in direct taxation.

**Terry Hudson, Whitstable**

## Coast should be open to all

I enjoy being by the coast. It gives a sense of freedom and access to clean air.

We were all promised a continuous path along England's coast but now it looks like the Government might go back on its word.

Along with the ramblers, I am worried that plans for the England Coast Path could be axed as part of budget cuts.

The project is vital for rejuvenating our coastal communities and encouraging people to live healthier lives.

The South West Coast Path already generates more than £300 million a year for the local economy. The recently opened Wales Coast Path was walked by 2.8m last year, bringing in an additional £1.6m to the Welsh economy.

The England Coast Path has the potential to bring similar benefits to our shores – boosting growth, creating jobs and increasing tourism.

We need to call on the Government to see this exciting project through and open up the coast for all.

Add your support by signing the petition at [www.ramblers.org.uk/onecoastforall](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/onecoastforall).

**Anne Smith, Maidstone**

## Charities gain from music

I am pleased to announce that donations totalling £80,000 have been made to Demelza Hospice Care for Children and Teens Unite Fighting Cancer as a result of Music on the Hill.

The event took place in Kings Hill on July 19-21 with thousands supporting this second charity music festival.

We all hope that those who attended will keep supporting the charities and get involved with other events throughout the year. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket and supported the event in any way, it was truly appreciated.

**Colin Thacker, trustee and event director**

## ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA...WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS



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**NICKY** 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, intelligent lady seeking for genuine male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774

**SUSIE**, seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will explain why. Tel No: 0905 002 1955 Box 407321

**LISA** blonde, blue eyes, looking for male, 42-54 for fun and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404877

**LADY** 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093

**LIZ** blonde blue eyed curly female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773

**JO** 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765

**GILL** 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTm n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799

**AMANDA** 44 blonde, blue eyed, very leggy, fun to be with, honest and caring seeking kind, considerate honest gent 74-79yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405315

**SUE** 65, slim, animal lover, 5ft, blonde, likes socialising, meals out, theatre, countryside, happy go lucky, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405767

**NATASHA** is a naughty 22yr old lady seeking no strings discreet fun with older man. Tel No: 0905 002 1954 Box 366033

**CAROLINE** 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067

**59YR** old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071

**SLIM** tall, elegant, feminine, N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, Military/professional gent of high calibre. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405707

**LISA** 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751

**52YR** old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891

**SLIM** N/S female, 54, working, reliable, easy going, likes nature, animals, seeks nice male companion, 50-64 for country/seaside walks and meals out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405745

**TEXT today**  
 contact GUY'S & GIRLS  
**KOS**  
 To 69500  
 (T&C's below)

**AMANDA** 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curly, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTm loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787

**5FT** female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeking caring, dedicated guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915

**MALE** 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTm lady, Thanet area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295

**LYN** happy, young looking 72yr old, 60-80 n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101

**SANDRA** outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230

**SUSAN** seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779

**JACQUELINE** 79 widow, easy going, good listener, not slim or neurotic, OHAC, Sevenoaks, lonely would like gentlemen's company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405533

**ATTRACTIVE** female, 53, N/S, 5ft 8ins, looking for similar male, 50-55 who loves countryside, animals and is easygoing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405421

**CLAIRE** looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Go on give me a call. Any age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993

**DOG** lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

## PICK AN ADVERT AND MAKE A DATE TODAY!

**COUNTRY** loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899

**SINGLE** mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking solo male, preferably with car. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751

**60YR** old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523

**REBECCA** kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273

**DIVORCED** female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275

**21YR** old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761

**CHRIS** petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759

**47YR** old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287

**LYN** 59, slim, fair, looking for someone to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397347

**GEORGINA** widow, WLTm gent, 60-80 with GSOH for days out, friendship, companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067

**SHIRLEY** 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779

**FEMALE** seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891

**ANNA** very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481

**LISA** 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391

**DOG** lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

**LINDA** young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521

**JAN** 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382

**JACQUELINE** 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659

**BEV** very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353

**DEILAH** 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769

**SUSIE** young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027

**LISA** 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421

## Men Seeking

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.**  
 Send : CHAT601 To : 60109  
 (T&C's below)

**TALL** friendly, light hearted, single, 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR with mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405557

**CANTERBURY** sign language interpreter 58, 5ft 10ins, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build female, 21-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697

**RONALD** 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211

**TALL** friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Croyned. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147

**TALL** slim male, early 40's, seeks loving female, 29-39 to share the nice things in life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407065

**CANTERBURY** white mature male, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build black/white/Asian/oriental female, 20-40 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697

**BLACK** beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391

**SINGLE** mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329

**48YR** old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797

**FEMALE** looking for male for friendship and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365

**HAPPY** young looking 71yr old female, likes life, fit, active, seeks male, 60 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393065

**MIRANDA** early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843

**MICHELLE** petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515

**SENSUAL** female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195

**RICHARD** divorced, 61, N/S, likes classic cars, looking to meet nice lady for meals out, days out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406349

**BRIAN** 6ft 3ins, medium build, blue eyes, brown hair, fun loving, happy go lucky, honest, seeks special lady for fun and to enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406333

**MIKE** 39, 6ft 7ins, large build, blue eyes, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406321

**DEREK** Croyned area, 52, self-employed, seeks female for 1-2-1 relationship, likes meals out, places of interest, holidays. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406559

**FUN** fit, 60yr old male, seeks older, well-built female for no strings discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404971

**70YRS** young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455

**STEVE** 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717

**BLACK** male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221

**MEDWAY** male, 60's, solvent, seeks attractive lady, 55-65, GSOH to wine, dine and share the good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405429

**DISCREET** kind man, 48, gentle, loving, genuine, seeking lady, Whistable. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406439

**OUTGOING** professional, fun loving, entertaining, male, seeking warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405633

**RETIRED** male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589

**VIC** mid 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405085

**CHRIS** from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTm N/S female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079

**CHRIS** 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271

**40** something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535

**TED** 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913

**PROFESSIONAL** male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537

**BUILDER** 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595

**RETIRED** male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589

**35YR** old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941

**ACTIVE** 60's semi-retired man, OHAC, GSOH, enjoys theatre, dancing, singing, amateur dramatics, coast, gardening etc. WLTm n/s female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404671

**FIT** fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857

**DAVE** 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, walks, shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals, seeks female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451

**KEVIN** 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405

**KEVIN** 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087

**BRUCE** likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097



**THANET** male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729

**CHRIS** 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271

**ANDY** 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903

**EDDIE** African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354

**BLACK** male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubenesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887

**GENUINE** fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761

**GRAHAM** 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727

**BRIAN** fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402299

**BLACK** British male, African descent, medium build, varied interests, understanding, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402641

**ROBERT** medium build, single, seeks nice, attractive, busty female with sexy clothes. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402597

**MICHAEL** slim, 44, likes CD, films, seeks older male 55 plus for fun times in the Thanet area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404373

**PAUL** 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013

**DENNIS** 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTm female for mutual fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201

**GARDENER** 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away, country walks, picnics and good conversation. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115

**SALVATORE** 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481

**KEVIN** 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405

**KEVIN** 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087

**BRUCE** likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097

## Gay Seeking

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**IF YOU'RE LOOKING** to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: GAY601 to 60109 for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service. (T&C's below)

Go online - [www.localgay-date.co.uk](http://www.localgay-date.co.uk)

**EASY-GOING** guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267

**BI** male, senior, clean-shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393

**DAVID** 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249

**STEVEN** 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147

**BI** guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093

**THANET** male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male, any age for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401915

**TV/BI** CD, seeks feminine male with similar interests for discreet daytime meets. Tel No: 09



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### By GREG MILES

**T**HEY say you should never work with animals and children, but a new show coming to Tunbridge Wells is throwing those principles out of the door.

Dinosaur Zoo is taking a new approach to children's entertainment with puppetry. Keen to do away with the dumbing-down culture employed by some, the Australian show brings to life dinosaurs through puppetry.

The show's director, Scott Wright, does not want his audience to believe that dinosaurs can sing, dance or count or have a favourite colour but instead

**'Why would you want a dinosaur to sing? They've got to run away from things like a burning volcano'**

pass on, through the skills of his puppeteers, that they lived a very real existence.

"It started a few years ago as a bit of a tongue-in-cheek street show. It's since become a wild-animal presentation," he said. "It's a show Steve Irwin would do if we had dinosaurs and he was still alive."

"The way we treat it is as a live-animal presentation. We try to teach children about animal husbandry and the way to interact. We don't try to hide the fact they are dangerous and can eat you. We don't try to teach children how to count or about different colours."

The dinosaur idea started out when Wright was asked by a palaeontologist how much a dinosaur puppet would cost to make – and three weeks after guessing a figure he was given the cash to start.

While that puppet was for display at a museum, it sparked an idea that has seen the performance company, Erth, taking its show across the globe.

"We thought 'Maybe we should be doing this ourselves'," he said. "So we created our own monster – it was time for us to explore and have some fun. I like that because it's organic"

"It's not something we went into as art-makers thinking we need to make money. That's something people do deliberately sometimes."

"Some shows speak down to children and treat them like idiots. We tackle the truth by saying 'This is a carnivore – it eats meat. What are you made out of?'"

"On the odd occasion we have people say it's too scary, but the children know dinosaurs eat each other. We engage in a conversation that goes above the babying. Why would you want a dinosaur to sing anyway? They've got to run away from things like a burning volcano."

The principles of puppetry can also



**REAL LIFE:** Dinosaur Zoo does not try to make the animals fluffy, but instead educates children about the nature of these prehistoric beasts

# Learn the truth about dinosaurs at puppet show

Children are given a fascinating lesson in reality by Oz travelling entertainers

make a great learning tool for youngsters. "I've been obsessed by them since I've been a child. I don't know if there was any choice. It's something I was going to do anyway," said Wright. "If you look at the origin of puppetry, I believe it's our first language."

"Genetically, before humans spoke, as neanderthals, we did things through gesture. That's why as children it's easy to play with toys – we are genetically speaking a language that's easy for us."

"If you enjoy the art of play, then you are 90 per cent of the way there."

The art form has taken on a whole new level, as shown by the likes of West End hit Warhorse in recent years. That and the constant discovery of new species of dinosaurs are giving Wright and his colleagues plenty of scope when it comes to their creations.

"Back in the beginning we were all multi-skilled artists – we did everything," he said. "Over the years people who are much better at designing and making have come on board."

"They have come from a very strict philosophy about research – we have worked with a number of palaeontologists for the build process. As we make more puppets, they become better informed scientifically."

**'We treat it as a live-animal presentation. We don't hide the fact they are dangerous.'**

"With regards to their engineering, it's great we can make things look like they weigh about a tonne but weigh as little as possible because someone has to operate it. It's a wide scale – on one hand they are simple rod puppets, but then some you climb inside to operate, using levers and pulleys. Some are inflatable."

"The great thing about my company is we have many tricks to our toolbox. It's to whatever suits purpose."



Dinosaur Zoo is at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 15-16. Shows are at midday on Tuesday and 10.30am and 1.30pm on Wednesday. Tickets are £15 for the first three rows, £12.50 other rows and £10 per pupil for schools. ■ Visit [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk) or call 01892 530613 to book.

### Features team

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# Weekend



## YOUR WEEKEND

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[features@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:features@kosmedia.co.uk)

## War hero Wolfe remembered with very special display

By Greg Miles

[greg.miles@archant.co.uk](mailto:greg.miles@archant.co.uk)

TREASURES that belonged to General James Wolfe will be going on display at his childhood home in Westerham next month.

Wolfe grew up in the town's Quebec House, where his short sword and scabbard, the only portrait of him believed to have been painted in his lifetime and a hand-written book of recipes by his mother Henrietta Wolfe will be on show.

The general famously won, in 1759, the Battle of Quebec, where he died at the victorious moment. He was immortalised in three paintings by Benjamin West, which are also on show.



**ON SHOW:** Benjamin West's painting of the death of General James Wolfe

The house is laid out as it would have been in the 1730s, when he lived there, and includes an exhibition on the battle of 1759.

Visitors will get a taste of life from that era with the help of Mrs Wolfe's recipes, which are being re-created. The recipe book provides a fascinating record of Mrs Wolfe's domestic life and correspondence with many famous names of the 18th century.

The items are on loan until November 2015 from the Warde family, whose home Squerries Court was itself until recently open to the public.

Zoe Colbeck, National Trust general manager, said: "This is a really exciting loan for Quebec House and those interested in General Wolfe."

"Without doubt one of this country's great military heroes, this generous loan from the Warde family will help ensure Quebec House continues

to represent a real celebration of General Wolfe's life and career."

Wolfe, the son of Lieutenant-General Edward Wolfe, started his army career aged 14 in 1741. He was given a fast track to the top after catching the attention of the Duke of Cumberland at the Battle of Dettingen in 1743.

By the time he was 22 he had been in battle four times and commanded his own regiment. He then played a prominent role in the Seven Years' War in North America, including the Siege of Louisbourg in 1758.

That led to his appointment at the age of 32 as major-general in command of the Quebec expedition in 1759. At dawn on September 13 he led 4,500 men on flat-bottomed land-

ing craft up the St Lawrence River before scaling the cliffs on the edge of the city, where they met the French on the Plains of Abraham in a battle that lasted just 15 minutes.

He was fatally wounded but lived long enough to hear of victory, which was pivotal in the remaining years of the war and the conversion of New France to Canada.

He became an iconic war hero back in England, while in Canada monuments still pay testament to his triumph. The town of Wolfeboro in New Hampshire was named in his honour.

The items will be on show at Quebec House from Wednesday, September 4. Visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/quebec-house](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/quebec-house).

Picture COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST AND WARDE FAMILY

## Marlowe Studio gets musical with a party piece

THE Marlowe Studio is hosting its first-ever musical this month.

The show, When Midnight Strikes, performed by Lights Up Productions, will be on the smaller stage at the Canterbury venue on Friday and Saturday, August 30-31.

Centered on a New Year's Eve party, the show features a score by Charles Miller and is packed with original songs.

The show is set around Jennifer West's

intimate dinner party, which begins to fall apart upon the discovery that her husband has been having an affair.

As the night unfolds, hidden secrets and guests' regrets rise to the surface in a story of love, betrayal and heartbreak.

The production will be directed by Canterbury Christ Church alumnus and professional director Max Reynolds.

He said: "We are absolutely thrilled to be bringing When Midnight Strikes to The

Marlowe Studio, especially as it is the first musical in the venue.

"This is a very witty, entertaining piece and in the intimacy of The Marlowe Studio it will charm the audiences and provoke both tears and laughter."

When Midnight Strikes is at The Marlowe Studio on Friday and Saturday, August 30-31. Tickets are priced at £12 (concessions £10); phone 01227 787787 or visit [www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com).




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# A man with a kite, a knight on a horse... and one special maze

By Greg Miles

[greg.miles@archant.co.uk](mailto:greg.miles@archant.co.uk)

PENSHURST Place has seen a surge in visitor numbers thanks largely to its maize maze.

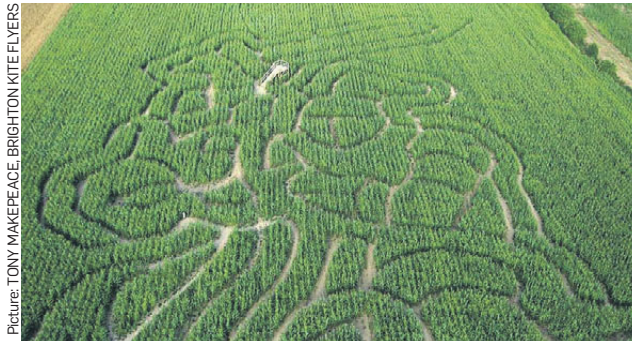
The maze is based on a knight riding a horse and was created to coincide with the venue's medieval events. It has attracted thousands of visitors to the venue.

Last year saw Penshurst's first maze as it bid to offer something extra to its visitors, and it has proven popular again, with figures 15 per cent up on what they were at this stage last year, when 70,000 visited during the summer – some 75,000 are expected this time round.

Penshurst Place general manager Ben Thomas said: "Last year was a shot in the dark. We didn't know how it was going to be, but once it got going it was amazing."

This summer's weather has given the crop an even bigger boost, with the maze walls up to 9ft in places.

The image of the creation, by Farm Image Agricultural Services was captured by Tony Makepeace, the Penshurst-based photographer using a camera mounted on a hi-tech



Picture: TONY MAKEPEACE, BRIGHTON KITE FLIERS

kite. Using a ground-based monitor, he was able to see through the lens, timing the photo to perfection by remote control.

The question of how the maze was created is the most common one for the team at Penshurst Place, but it is not as complex as you might think.

The field is sown 'side to side' as well as 'top to bottom' to make the walls more tightly packed. A pattern will then be drawn up using GPS.

When the maize is several inches high, two people walk across the field marking out the paths. The first per-

son follows the GPS tracker, while the one behind holds a spray-paint can in each hand to mark the edges of the path. Once the maize has grown some more, the pathways are cleared by a mower.

The Maize Maze is open daily from 10.30am to 5pm until Monday, September 2. It will then be open at weekends until Sunday, September 15, from 10.30am-5pm.

This weekend there will be a Knight School, with story-telling in the maze on Sunday and Monday.

Visit [www.penshurstplace.com](http://www.penshurstplace.com).



## Lemur lads move into park

PORT Lympne Wild Animal Park has welcomed two new arrivals to mark the start of a breeding programme.

Brothers Arthur and Echo, two crowned sifaka lemurs, arrived at the park near Hythe from Belfast this week.

Animal manager Simon Jeffrey said: "They are lovely lemurs. Visitors will easily be able to spot them as they are quite curious, so they are always out watching what's going on."

The duo arrived at Port Lympne as part of a breeding programme designed

to boost the population of crowned sifakas, whose numbers are dwindling in the wild.

This lemur is now classified as endangered on the IUCN Red list.

Jeffrey said: "Breeding programmes are important for the future of lemurs. There are only 17 crowned sifaka lemurs in wild animal parks around the world and Port Lympne is one of three parks in the UK to look after them."

Visit [www.aspinallfoundation.org/portlympne](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/portlympne) to find out more.

## On track for speedy family fun

FAST and furious fun is on offer at Buckmore Park circuit this summer.

The circuit, where Formula One world champions Lewis Hamilton and Jenson Button learnt their trade, is the only place to experience the thrill of real outdoor karting to the full.

This bank-holiday Monday, August

26, is a great chance to take advantage of the Turn Up'n'Drive karting day for all the family. Separate sessions are available for mums and dads on the 600-metre national circuit.

Phone 01634 661612, visit [www.buckmore4kids.co.uk](http://www.buckmore4kids.co.uk) or email [sales@buckmore.co.uk](mailto:sales@buckmore.co.uk) for more details.

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[features@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:features@kosmedia.co.uk)It's the Egyptian  
arty sleepover

MAIDSTONE Museum and Bentliff Art Gallery will be throwing open its doors for the night as part of an Egyptian-themed event.

On Friday, September 13, the venue will be hosting the Egyptian Sleepover, at which visitors can take part in activities including crafts, dressing-up and storytelling.

Visitors will then spend the night sleeping in the Tudor Great Hall at the venue.

Samantha Harris, museum curator, said: "We are looking forward to welcoming families to spend a night at the museum. Unfortunately we can't guarantee any ghosts will be there, but we will be inviting them."

Refreshments and breakfast will be provided. There are limited spaces at £30 per person.

Children must be accompanied by an adult, with a maximum of three children per adult. All children must be aged seven and above.

For more information, email [museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk) or phone 01622 602862.

Hop festival fans invited to  
help make event a success

By Greg Miles

[greg.miles@archant.co.uk](mailto:greg.miles@archant.co.uk)

ALL the traditions of Faversham Hop Festival are just a week away, but organisers are calling for more support from volunteers to make it happen.

The two-day festival, which is expecting some 30,000 visitors, celebrates all that is good about one of Kent's greatest exports – beer – as well as adding family fun and some quirky traditions.

However, with the event just a week away, the organisers are asking for more volunteers to come forward to help with marshalling and stewarding the crowds.

There is a whole list of vacant positions to choose from, with volunteering slots lasting just two hours. The full list is on the festival's website, [www.favershamhopfestival.org](http://www.favershamhopfestival.org).

Commercial manager Graham Martin said: "Volunteers have always been vital to the running of the festival and remain vital because we cannot afford to pay anyone."

"I have personally worked more than 300 hours this year on the festival."

"Last year we had the Catch 22 situation of having volunteers but no one to organise the volunteers."

The highlight of the weekend is Sunday's parade through the town, which starts at 10am at the top of Station Road and goes through Preston Street and into Market Street.

There will be eight sets of Morris Dancers, the



Hop Queen and King and a haka display from Faversham rugby club, while Shepherd Neame's 1930s horse-drawn delivery carriage will be on display.

Before it all starts, the blessing of the hops by Reverend Debbie Hodgson takes place at 9.30am on the stage in Preston Street.

There will also be children's entertainment with a Punch and Judy show, a magic show, circus acts, stilt-walkers and more in a bid to make it a more family-orientated event this year. Shoppers will also be kept busy, with all manner of stalls at the festival, including, of course, beer!

Faversham Hop Festival wristbands have already gone on sale for £2 each, with the funds supporting this year's event and getting the ball rolling for next year. They are available at Shepherd Neame pubs, The Old Wine Vaults and The Phoenix Tavern.

Stars' postcards  
will help charity

POSTCARDS from celebrities such as Barbara Windsor and Bradley Walsh will form part of a charity auction at Margate Harbour Arm Gallery next month.

Artists, celebrities and the public have donated a postcard-sized picture to be sold anonymously, with successful bidders not knowing who has created them until after the gavel has fallen.

It is hoped that more than 100 postcards will be on offer, among them an entry from artist Tracey Emin, who has supported the event, which raises money for Pilgrims Hospice, for the last three years.

Postcards will be on display every day at the gallery from Saturday, August 31, from 10am-4pm until the day of the auction – Saturday, September 7, which takes place from 3pm until 6pm.

Frank Thorley, of Thorley Taverns, and author Jane Wenham-Jones will auction the postcards.

Pilgrims regional fund-raising manager Karen Kenward said: "Last year, the auction raised nearly £8,000 and we hope to raise even more this year with the support from celebrities."

"We are very fortunate to have so many people contribute postcards for sale, many of them regular supporters of Pilgrims Hospices."

The charity provides its services free to all who need them and raises 75 per cent of its funding with the help of the community.



## Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September



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## Love affair with the 60s

FROM Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da to Everlasting Love, the Sensational 60s Experience is reviving some classics, with original bands playing in Folkestone and Dartford.

The show is bringing together Marmalade, Herman's Hermits, Steve Ellis's Love Affair and Chris Farlowe for a tour that has two dates in the county.

Marmalade claimed a number one with Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da, while Herman's Hermits were a hit in the 60s with more than 23 Top 20 singles, 10 hit albums and three films.

Chris Farlowe, who performed alongside The Thunderbirds when they

started in the late 50s, had hits with songs such as Handbags And Glad Rags and Out Of Time.

Ellis's Love Affair stormed into the charts in 1967 with Everlasting Love – Ellis was only 16 at the time.

The night will be hosted by Alan Mosca from Freddie And The Dreamers.

The show will be at The Orchard Theatre in Dartford on Friday, November 1, at 7.30pm. Tickets are available by calling 01322 220000 or online at [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk).

It is also at the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, on Thursday, November 7, at 7.30pm. Phone 0844 871 3015 or visit [www.atgtickets.com/folkestone](http://www.atgtickets.com/folkestone).

## What the Dickens? Step back in time for literary grand tour



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They can then finish off their experience with a range of fun-fair activities and a fully-dressed Victorian photograph in the courtyard.

**Coming soon:** Halloween Half Term Scare Tour, Dickensian Christmas Tours, Winter Wonderland and Aladdin Christmas Pantomime!

Dickens World Grand Tour entry is from £5.50 per person. Visit [www.dickensworld.co.uk](http://www.dickensworld.co.uk) or phone on 0844 858 6656 for more details.



## Elkie Brooks is coming to sing

ELKIE Brooks is bringing her blues and jazz talents to The Orchard Theatre this month.

Brooks, now in the fifth decade of her brilliant career, will sing some of the classic hits during her performance at the Dartford venue.

Last year saw the release of her autobiography Finding My Voice and a re-release of her acclaimed album Powerless.

Pre-show dining is available. The performance is on Saturday, August 31, at 7.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £24 plus a £1.50 per ticket booking fee; visit [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk) or phone 01322 220000.

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## We are delighted to be able to bring you the very first **Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards**

THE Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards will take place at Tudor Park Hotel on Thursday, November 14, 2013, from 6.30pm to midnight.

These brand-new awards are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to the good and the great from the county's food and drink industry, including local producers and suppliers, small farming businesses, chefs, restaurants, pubs and hoteliers – people who care about the countryside and the future of our local environment.

The companies nominated will all be voted for by you, our readers. We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or have been impressed by the produce and service at your farmers' market or farm shop.

Entry forms are available online at [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk).

Entries close on Friday, August 30, 2013.

Our panel of judges will then select a shortlist, kickstarting the independent judging process where finalists will be visited or interviewed to determine a worthy winner in each category.

All finalists will be invited to the prestigious awards ceremony in November, where they will enjoy a Champagne reception and three-course meal based on locally-sourced produce before finding out if they are a winner.

This is the first Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards and we are immensely proud to be able to offer you the chance to reward and recognise the deserving businesses

within our local food and drink industry, the ones that consistently go above and beyond expectations.

These awards are what you make of them so if you are the owner of a restaurant, a budding chef or local producer, then help to spread the word among your clients and visitors.

With our online voting system up and running, it takes no time at all to cast your vote.

The judging panel is looking for quality over quantity, focusing on good comments rather than number of votes, so everybody is in with a chance, no matter how big or small your business is.

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## AWARDS CRITERIA

### NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR



This popular category is open to anyone in the food or drink business who has started a new venture within the last 18 months. It could be any food and drink business but we want to know what impact they have made on the local community and whether they have started to achieve any success further afield. Are they helping to promote Kent food and drink to a new audience? Tell us who has impressed you.

### BUTCHER OF THE YEAR

#### Porsche Centre Tonbridge

This category is here for one reason and that is to praise our many local butchers and everything they do for Kent. Consider asking your butcher how their meat is hung, prepared and cut and whether it can be traced to a local farm. Are the staff knowledgeable and helpful? Does the butcher play a key role within the local community? If so, nominate them.

### BEST TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR



We recognise that tea shops are an integral part of the Kent food and drink scene and we'd like to know your favourites. Who makes the best tea, serves the nicest cakes and the freshest scones? Is the jam home made and are the sandwiches freshly cut and liberally filled? Most importantly, are most of the ingredients locally sourced? We're looking forward to hearing about your favourites.

### INDEPENDENT RETAILER OF THE YEAR



This category acknowledges the hard work Kent's independent food and drink retailers put into giving their customers the best possible experience in-store, reinforcing their role at the heart of the community and showing true innovation with their displays. We are looking for independent retailers who put local and seasonal at the heart of the food and drink experience and who are proud to work with and support the best the Garden of England can offer.

### BEST FARM SHOP



Just like our Farmers' Markets, a good farm shop needs to have that extra-special something to tempt shoppers away from their local supermarket. Are the staff friendly and knowledgeable, is the range of produce and the layout of an excellent standard, does your local farm shop offer a box scheme? Is most of the produce sold there grown or raised on that farm, or nearby and if not would the owner be able to tell you where it is from?

### BEST FOOD OR DRINK PRODUCER



This category celebrates our local suppliers and producers who play such a vital role in the food community. We are looking for someone who consistently provides a reliable quality of products and services to their customers. So whether it's your local bakery, drinks merchant or meat producer, we want to know why this person or business goes the extra mile for you and gets your vote.

### BEST FAMILY DINING VENUE



We've all experienced that sinking feeling when you go out for a meal with the family and you know almost immediately the proprietors and staff would have preferred you to have left the kids at home. We want to know about the exact opposite, those establishments that welcome and treat with respect your whole party, from elderly to very young, and ideally don't banish you too an outer

room away from the main dining area. Do they have high-quality menus that suit every age group, provide high chairs if needed, offer useful distractions such as paper and crayons for younger children to use at the table? Is there a children's play area and good baby-changing facilities in the toilets? And most importantly is the food of an excellent standard and worthy of mum and dad as well as the younger members of the party? Tell us all about your best family dining experience in Kent.

### BEST PUB OF THE YEAR



Combining country pubs and dining pubs, the whole eating-out experience needs to be taken into account in this category. Customer service, value for money and the quality of the food should all be accounted for. How well does the establishment you recommend use and name local suppliers and seasonal produce throughout its menus? Neighbourhood pubs are at the heart of the local community and this category is your chance to give something back for all the enjoyment they give you. Are the staff friendly and welcoming, even if it isn't your local? Are there local ales, juices, wines and ciders available to purchase and if so, are they proudly on display? Also, note the quality and speed of the service, the overall atmosphere and ambience, both inside and outside in the beer garden.

### BEST FARMER'S MARKET



The key to a good Farmers' Market is not only the range of produce and the quality of its stalls but also the principles that it supports – for example, does it work as a co-operative with other farmers, is most of the produce sold there grown or raised locally? Are the stallholders welcoming and knowledgeable and is the layout easy to navigate as you move around the market? Are any extras offered on a regular basis, such as cookery demonstrations or talks, is it well advertised so you can plan your visit in advance, is there good accessibility and parking?

### RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR



We suspect that this category will be one of our most coveted awards, as the Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Restaurant of the Year needs to offer an incomparable dining experience, from the ambience to the service and most importantly the food. Is it locally sourced and does it change with the seasons? Does chef support local producers and are they recognised on the menu? Look through the wine list, are there local as well as international wines and sparkling wines and can the staff tell you more if you ask? We'd expect nothing less from our Restaurant of the Year.

### CHEF OF THE YEAR



Kent is blessed with outstanding chefs working in the county's fantastic array of restaurants. The Chef of the Year should be someone who has devoted him or herself to the cause of serving the best possible food. They will demonstrate technical ability, use of seasonal ingredients, presentation of the food and an understanding of how flavours work together. They will be able to lead and inspire their team and to talk to customers knowledgeably about the dishes they have enjoyed. Above all, we are looking for passion – that magic ingredient that defines true greatness in the kitchen.

### BEST KENT FOOD AND DRINK HERO



Kent has a food and drink scene that is more vibrant than many others across the UK. This category celebrates the individual who has made the most impact on the food or drink community – someone who goes the extra mile to promote Kent to a wider audience and is passionate about local produce throughout. Now is your chance to nominate your own Kent food and drink hero.



# FOOD & DRINK

## Flavours of Kent

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# Three Mariners quality means price is more than just right

**T**he Three Mariners has enjoyed a lengthy reputation for serving good food. It is widely known to anyone with an interest in this county's restaurant scene.

And in October 2012, the Oare pub was granted a Bib Gourmand, which the Michelin guide awards for "good cooking at moderate prices".

Being of sound mind, the thought of excellent food without having to dig too deep in the pocket is surely a no-brainer. It would appear I'm not alone in thinking this as the place was packed on the sunny Monday evening we visited.

Its old-school feel is heartening and there's no sign of the trendy modern décor associated with many gastropubs. The menu is pleasing, too, with a mixture of meat and fish without so much fancy-pants cuisine. Using Ray Winstone's voice to describe the place, I would say "a proper pub".

We were seated at the table, with home-made bread, salty butter and oil at no charge (always gets a thumbs-up).

A conversation with the waitress made it clear that the £16.95 set dinner menu wasn't some sort of joke – neither was it left over from lunch to entice passing trade. Three courses it is, then!

I started with a fresh crab cocktail. The lemon taste of the salty crab-meat was served on a

## RESTAURANT REVIEW



bed of cucumber, tomato and olives, with a succulent slice of avocado for good measure. The tangy Thousand Island sauce set all off perfectly.

My adventurous guest chose from the à la carte menu the grilled vegetables and burrata. The burrata is a Mozarella casing with a cream and Mozarella centre and made for a melt-in-the-mouth, rich starter.

For the main course I went for the fillet of farmed sea bass. The fish was cooked beautifully, with a crispy skin and flesh that fell apart as you touched it. It was served with a zingy tomato and

piquillo pepper salsa, which was delicious and I would have liked to have seen more of, as well as new potatoes, vegetables and a generous serving of spinach.

My guest chose the herb-crusted rump of lamb in a thick red-wine jus, with thin, crispy potatoes and vegetables. There was real plateful and I was delighted to take part in consuming it, but the sumptuous meat and strong jus beat both of us by the end.

The servings were on the large side and so we opted to share a dessert of chocolate mousse with raspberries resting on slices of banana and drizzled with raspberry and chocolate sauce. The mousse was infused with popping candy, which made for a fun and imaginative end to the meal.

Here comes the Bib Gourmand bit – the total bill, including three drinks, came to a staggeringly low £51.55.

The set menu is not afraid to appeal to the masses and the quality of food is outstanding. My recommendation is to get in there quick before the Mariners team realises the ridiculously good value that it is offering.

Joe Bill

■ **The Three Mariners, 2 Church Road, Oare, Faversham ME13 0QA (01795 533633; www.threemarinersoare.co.uk)**

## Jay Rayner brings his book revue to Astor

RENOWNED food critic and author Jay Rayner will be taking his new book on tour, which includes a stop at Deal's Astor Community Theatre in September.

As The Guardian's food writer, Rayner has a reputation of telling people how it is without worrying about who he upsets.

The One Show star has penned a new book entitled A Greedy Man In A Hungry World and will give a talk about his writing, described by critics as "hard-nosed reporting with witty memoir to take you on a journey through the world's edible landscape".

Rayner will be at the Astor on Friday, September 13. Tickets are priced at £15.

## The future's funny as Squid hits Maidstone

RESTAURANT group Giggling Squid is opening a restaurant in Maidstone town centre as it continues its bid to be the only Thai food chain in the country.

The eatery will take over a 4,250 sq ft unit in Earl Street, adding to the restaurant it already has in Tumbidge Wells.

The former members' club and snooker venue will soon be hosting 200 inside covers and a further 60 outside.

It will be the chain's 10th, and largest, site when it opens in early 2014.

The company, established in 2008, is looking to become an 80-strong chain by 2020.

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And guess what?

This local delight is available exclusively to buy at the Marquis.

So come over and enjoy a glass to start a meal – perhaps take a bottle home with you.





# Homes & Gardens

## You wouldn't eat from a dirty plate... so why do you forget to keep your patio table clean?

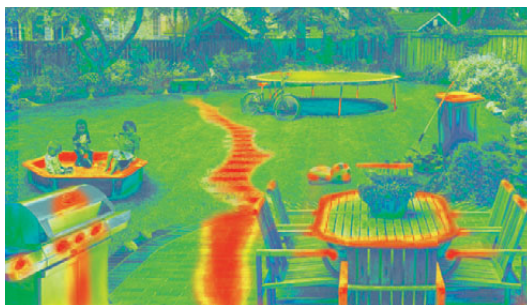
**B**ARBECUES, garden furniture, patios and children's play areas could all be harbouring high levels of bacteria, according to a recent report.

Commissioned by outdoor-cleaning expert Jeyes and carried out by environmental hygiene expert Dr Lisa Ackerley, the report recorded the levels of bacteria microbes in and around the garden.

The study found that almost all areas of the garden that come into regular contact with hands or food can host high levels of bacteria. In fact, of the six areas tested, four, including barbecues and bin lids, were found to contain more bacteria than the average toilet seat.

The report also shows that despite our diligence in keeping indoor areas clean and germ-free, most house-proud Brits overlook garden-cleaning. Of the 1,400 people polled, only a third clean their patio tables more than twice a year, and 36 per cent scrub their barbecue to the same frequency. In comparison, 71 per cent clean their kitchen table every day, and 42 per cent clean their toilet daily.

High levels of microbes in the garden can indicate the presence of more sinister organisms



and bacteria such as e-coli, salmonella and listeria, which can cause severe vomiting and diarrhoea and are particularly dangerous for the very old and very young.

Overall, barbecues were found to be the dirtiest surface item in the garden, with a staggering 1.7 million microbes per 100cm<sup>2</sup> found on the food preparation area – significantly more than the average amount found on the average toilet seat (759,950 microbes). Interestingly, all of the barbecues tested had appeared clean at the time of testing.



**GERM MAP:** TommyWalsh urges people to keep clean

Bin lids were found to have the next highest bacterial count, with 1.2 million microbes per 100 cm<sup>2</sup>, posing a potential risk to householders taking out the rubbish – highlighting the importance of washing hands.

Bacteria in the garden can include decaying plant matter and dropped or spilled food, as well as deposits from wild or domestic animals, including birds. The report highlights the need for regular garden-cleaning with a specialist disinfectant and before use with items such as garden tables.

Dr Lisa Ackerley said: "We often see our gardens as an extension to our homes, but they could become a reservoir of harmful bacteria, potentially giving rise to illness and infection if transferred to your food or mouth by your hands."

"To help keep the family safe, I would suggest cleaning and disinfecting garden furniture and barbecues prior to use and, if you have small children, then remember to clean areas that may come into contact with their hands, such as play equipment and decking. Using an appropriate disinfectant could significantly reduce this risk and lead to a healthier, safer outdoor experience for all."

Celebrity builder Tommy Walsh, who has teamed up with Jeyes Fluid to create top tips for a cleaner garden, added: "When the sun comes out and we head into the garden, the last thing we want to do is clean. But disinfecting the garden needn't be a long and arduous task provided you have the right products to hand."

"A simple scrub of the barbecue, a spray of the children's play area and a quick wash of the patio can be complete in less than 30 minutes with the Jeyes range of garden disinfectants. This leaves you lots of time to enjoy the summer in a clean outdoor environment."

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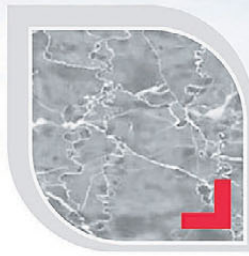


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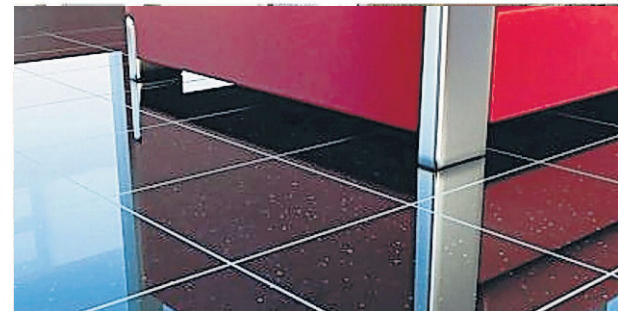


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# Town where the Joneses are second best

**G**ONE are the days of keeping up with the Joneses – at least in swish Tunbridge Wells.

When it comes to our homes and judging other people's style, it seems most residents in the swanky west Kent town think they're the ones others should be emulating.

More than half (57 per cent) believe their homes are more tastefully decorated than their friends', with a confident 70 per cent of people rating their home style as excellent and having a natural flair for interior design.

According to a nationwide survey of more than 3,000 people by homeware-for-less retailer HomeSense, almost two decades of home-improvement TV shows have given the nation a 'sixth sense' – that is a strong sense of style confidence, with Tunbridge Wells one of the hot-spots.

However, it seems that others fall short of our own exacting standards... not that we're letting on! Sixty per cent of people admit lying about liking a gift they've received for their home, with one fifth (21 per cent) putting a gift on display only when the person who gave it to them comes round to visit.



In fact, some people will go to extreme lengths to keep their pad just the way they like it. One per cent confess to having deliberately broken something because they didn't like it, rather than have it on display, while a sneaky 17 per cent of women have thrown out something of their partner's without telling them, compared with just 8 per cent of men.

The research also reveals that we are not shy about sharing our

shopping habits with friends and family as more than two-thirds (70 per cent) of respondents admitted getting a buzz from telling people about bargains they had bagged.

However, 7 per cent disguise their thrifty antics by lying and telling friends and family things cost more than they do to create the illusion of exclusivity.

An even sneakier 18 per cent of people are prone to telling their partners they purchased products

in the sale when in fact they were fully priced.

Interior designer Danielle Proud said: "Brits are well known for their quirky, individual sense of style – what's new is their confidence. The vibe is less 'keeping up with the Joneses', more 'the Joneses had better keep up with me!'."

HomeSense spokeswoman Helen Gunter said: "Tunbridge Wells is clearly more house-proud than it has ever been and as people's confidence in their own sense of style grows, it's great to see people opening up their doors to show off their homes."

"Despite one-third of us believing that it costs a fortune to update our interiors, it's easy to refresh our living environment with a few simple inexpensive accent pieces such as cushions and throws or artwork and accessories to ensure we stamp our own individual style on our homes."

The research was commissioned to coincide with the launch of the HomeSense Sensology App, helping house-proud Brits to identify their individual 'sixth sense' style.

You can to share your flair for interior design by uploading pictures of your home to Facebook. com/myhomesense.

## Ream team on TV to seal the dream

A GILLINGHAM company took centre stage this week on one of television's most popular home-improvement shows.

Channel 4's Double Your House For Half The Money is hosted by Sarah Beeny and, according to its website, "helps people achieve their property dreams without breaking the bank in these recession-hit times".

Tuesday's episode saw Maidstone couple Ben Barratt and Eloise Seale bid to double the living space in their cramped 1960s detached home.

Cue Ream, a company that over the past 34 years has evolved into an expert operation in the field of bespoke kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms and home offices.

Ben and Eloise wanted a new kitchen and dining and living area delivering the wow factor.

A Ream spokesman said: "We could offer the quality, multi-functional room they were looking for, with a personal, relaxed experience."

"As Ben and Eloise were expecting their first child, safety and space were key. Ben wanted a modern minimalist look, whereas Eloise was after something contemporary with a warm feel."

"With this in mind, we decided our Kent Collection Range was the ideal choice. White gloss acrylic doors with glass-effect edging created a modern, stylish look and added light."

"This was combined with a wrap effect using textured matt wooden panels, adding the homely feel Eloise was looking for."

Ben and Eloise said: "This is everything we could have hoped for and more. Sometimes we have to pinch ourselves and think 'Is this really our home?'"

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## Homes &amp; Gardens

# Autumn is a time of inspiration

## GARDENING WITH THE EXPERT

BY JEREMY SHIRLEY



**P**ROVERB of the month: 'If the storms in September clear off warm, all the storms of the following months will also be warm'. Well, at the time of writing we could do with a good storm and some real rain – not just a shower. Two-inch-wide cracks in the lawn... rain in plenty is needed now!

Despite this, I can proudly boast that our vegetable and flower trials have never looked better – and there have been many compliments.

Parched, brown lawns have a quite remarkable speed of 'green up', as you will find when the rains come.

Now is the time to reflect on autumn planning and planting pretty plants for winter and early-spring colour.

Early? Yes, and late. The Penny Lane violas, Clear Crystal pansies, first grown by me in that dreadful winter of 1963, are still available.

Late-September to October planting is the time for the not-often-seen, cultivated, old-fashioned, richly-perfumed wallflower Myosotis – a true forget-me-not, its rich blue contrasting joyfully with yellow pansies inter-planted.

The Victorians were the ones for winter bedding. Few have seen the everlasting, fully hardy



**DELIGHTFUL:** Tumbleberries offer a 'big flavour'

Edwardian double-flowered primroses that I'm proud to say found their way from Challock to grow in the Queen's private garden.

Don't forget an inexpensive range of bulbs. Choose those that, once planted, will appear year after year.

Snowdrops, crocuses, grape hyacinths, Scented Cheerfulness Narcissi and, of course, bulb-planting in pots using ordinary garden soil are fine to flower in the house at Christmas and New Year. Better value will be had from a specialist mail-order source like Jacque Amand Dutch Bulbs.

Autumn and winter is the time that tumbleberries come into their own. I found these 'little strawberries with the big flavour', as editorially featured by the Sunday Express, many years ago in Switzerland. They leave no annoying runners and, planted 10 centimetres apart, can make a good ground cover.

Upon reflection, alas, many new properties now have small gardens, so how can folk make best use of them?

Consider making an alpine garden, with not a lot of effort or space needed, and something that I intend to reawaken in the new year.

My wife and I were enthralled last year in an alpine garden with huge rocks and walks in Tromsø, Norway, with snow-capped mountain peaks in June that set off a huge array of colour, especially masses of stunning blue gentians.

You could, as I will on a small scale and defying the worst of winter's weather, create a miniature forest with tree seedlings, rooted dwarf conifer cuttings or growing Bonsai, once an important part of our nursery.

In times gone by, I grew Saintpaulias (African

violets to you) from seed. They are hardly seen today, but the African Violet Society still exists.

These are for greenhouse or indoor growing and I reckon it's time to reawaken not just a hobby but a profitable home business, too. Yes, I started with just a small greenhouse!

There are many ways that home gardeners can capitalise on their hobby. At Ash, near Canterbury, there used to exist in two back-garden greenhouses Pete and Ken's Cactus Nursery.

I recall washed-out margarine tubs hanging on wires. Cacti seedlings were produced in these, potted on and sold.

The nursery even had coach-party visitors from the Continent and many children as customers, too. Alas it is now gone. Time for a revival of growing cacti? Yes, I think so.

**My article this month is shortened but can be found in full at [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk), where you will be further inspired.**

While I do not promise to reply, I would be grateful to have your comments, suggestions, criticisms and indeed your thoughts on what you would like to see us growing or providing at Victoriana. I will always welcome your feedback at [info@victoriananursery.co.uk](mailto:info@victoriananursery.co.uk).

Oh, a final point! Do give support to your local nurseries. You will find folk with knowledge to impart, an understanding of growing and the hand of friendship, which we so enjoy across the whole of the British Isles.

■ **Jeremy Shirley developed Challock's Victoriana Nursery Gardens; you can visit [www.victoriananursery.co.uk](http://www.victoriananursery.co.uk) to find out more.**

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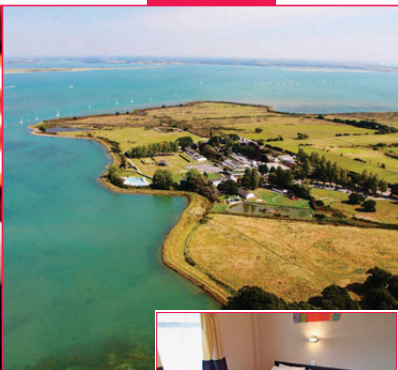
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£150 Drinks  
6pm to Midnight  
every night



Quote MR11-KOS



We had a fabulous Christmas Party at Mill Rythe in 2012, so we're doing it all again. We've booked the whole resort and great entertainment including a Grease movie screening & Tribute Show, great tribute and team shows and a host of festive fun.

**INCLUDED:** £150 drinks from 6pm to midnight every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full Entertainment programme • 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available

### SWINGING SIXTIES CARRY ON NEW YEAR PARTY

£10pp DEPOSIT

From £219pp 3 nights semi-all-inclusive, Friday 10 January, 2014

**Warner**  
Bembridge Hotel  
Isle of Wight

**The Fortunes**  
You've got your troubles  
Here it comes again  
Storm in a teacup

**FREE DRINKS**  
6pm to Midnight  
every night

**COMEDY**  
LEGEND  
**Joey**  
Howard

**Dusty Springfield**  
tribute & 60s  
Team Show



Quote WS1-KOS

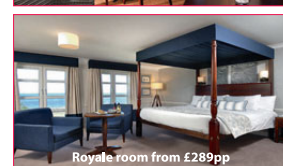
Our private party extends the New Year festivities and takes us on a trip down memory lane at our favourite Warner hotel. Enjoy a gala New Year's Eve party with countdown to midnight and great entertainment.

**INCLUDED:** Free Bar from 6pm to midnight every night for house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks, mixers, tea & standard coffee • Entertainment • 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades to main hotel available • Car ferry worth £45



#### COME DANCING PARTY

If you're a dance fan who enjoys ballroom and latin dancing, you'll love our popular Come Dancing Party, running alongside the Carry on New Year Party - add dance tuition, a Gala Ball, a huge dance floor with reserved table & seating and much more for just £40pp extra



Royale room from £289pp



## SELF DRIVE DEALS



### Self-Drive Deals Grand Burstin Hotel Folkestone

3 nights, half board  
£99pp

4 nights, half board +  
99p Bar £119pp

Quote GB-KOS

3 Nights: Fri 20 Sept & 4 Oct;  
4 Nights: Mon 23 Sept, 2013

The Grand Burstin Hotel, set in a prime position overlooking Folkestone Harbour, is renowned as one of the UK's top entertainment hotels, so you can relax, dine in

style and be entertained all under one roof. Cabaret Shows are performed in the Ocean bar every evening - fantastic entertainment for all ages! The hotel also runs regular daytrips to France which are bookable at reception. The Spindles Health Club & Gym has an indoor heated Swimming pool and sauna, as well as a state of the art gym (£4 per day payable at the hotel). All bedrooms are en-suite with TV, hairdryer and tea/coffee-making facilities.

**INCLUDED:** • 3 or 4 nights sharing a twin/double-bedded hotel room • Breakfasts & dinners • Entertainment (4-night break includes 99p Bar 6 to 9pm every evening - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers)



### Las Vegas Legends Party at Pontins Pakefield Suffolk Coast

3 nights half board  
+99p Bar  
£109pp

Quote: PL10-KOS

Friday 4 October, 2013

The Rat Pack and an endless list of world famous stars have made Las Vegas the entertainment capital of the world. We have reserved the whole of Pontins Pakefield resort to bring you a taste of Vegas with

tribute acts and a host of nostalgic fun.

**INCLUDED:** 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full entertainment programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

**PONTINS PAKEFIELD** Holiday Village is situated on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. There's a choice of bars and eateries, an indoor swimming pool, snooker, pool, darts, short mat bowls, 9 hole pitch & putt, tennis court and more. The chalets are all single storey and situated in level landscaped grounds just a short stroll from the main facilities and car parks. All chalets have TV, tea/coffee making facilities, heating, double glazing, en suite bath/shower & toilet, bed linen & towels. Included meals are taken in the buffet-style cafeteria with views over the grounds to the sea.



### Carry on New Year Parties at Bosworth Hall Hotel, Leicestershire

2 nights half board  
+99p Bar

£109pp Sale £99pp

Quote: CO1-KOS

Fridays: 17, 24 & 31  
January, 2014

Extend your New Year celebrations at Bosworth Hall Hotel, in the village of Market Bosworth near Leicester. Our popular private

party weekends have become a must-do annual event with guests returning year after year. You'll enjoy entertainment each night, a New Year party plus 99p drinks. Set in 11 acres of landscaped gardens, the hotel has an indoor pool and gym available for guests' use.

**INCLUDED:** 99p bar 6pm to 11pm both evenings for house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • 2 dinners & 2 breakfasts • Enhanced cabaret both nights and a New Year Party • 2 nights sharing an en-suite bedroom with TV & tea/coffee tray





# Business Week

online@[www.businessforkent.co.uk](http://www.businessforkent.co.uk)

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Commerce**  
The Ultimate Business Network

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## Clothing label opens its first outlet store

GLOBAL fashion brand Twenty8Twelve has opened its first outlet store at Ashford's McArthurGlen designer outlet centre.

The opening earlier this week created three new jobs and saw the shop take over 1,866sq ft of retail space.

Originally launched in 2007 by Sienna and Savannah Miller, Twenty8Twelve is now stocked in more than 300 stores worldwide.

David Maddison, centre manager of the centre, said: "Twenty8Twelve is a fresh, young fashion brand, so we're delighted to announce its opening, especially as it's the first of its kind in the UK."

## Garden of England is already a winner

SITTINGBOURNE-BASED food producer Bennett Opie is launching a new brand called the Garden of England which will enable it to expand and enter new retail markets both in the UK and overseas.

The new range of preserves, condiments, compotes, pickles and chutneys is made using fruit and vegetables grown on carefully selected farms across the UK.

And despite not being launched yet, its pickled shallots have already won a Gold 2 star award at the Great Taste Awards, the world's largest food awards scheme. The event, which attracted more than 10,000 entries, was blind judged by writers and buyers from the likes of Harrods, Fortnum & Mason and Selfridges.

Paul Mendel, brand manager for the Garden of England range, said: "Consumers are looking for products that are authentic and have provenance and we are committed to providing this as well as supporting English farmers and growers."

"The preserves all follow time-honoured recipes and by using seasonal English produce and a traditional style of labelling we are going back to basics. It is reminiscent of how things used to be."

The Garden of England brand, which will be reserved for farm shops, delicatessens and independent stores, will be launched at a key London trade show, Speciality & Fine Food Fair, in September.

If you have a business story, then we would like to hear from you. Telephone the newsdesk on 01303 817000, or alternatively email your story to [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk)



## Cross-Channel ferries sailing to success as passengers on the up

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

FERRY companies say they have bounced back from the so-called Olympic effect last year, with figures released this week showing an encouraging rise in 2013.

And it is the short hop over the Channel from Kent which is seeing the sharpest rise.

Passengers using the ships to travel to and from the Continent rose 7.2 per cent – representing some 5.7 million – over the three months to the end of July, compared to the same period last year.

The figures were released by industry body Discover Ferries.

Discover Ferries is run by the Passenger Shipping Association, a non-profit making organisation serving the UK ferry industry.

Total ferry passengers for all of the 75-plus UK ferry routes during the last three months to July 31 are up four per cent compared with the same period last year – to a total of nearly 12.4m passengers. Those routes include services to Ireland, Holland and Spain.

But what will encourage the local economy is that the confidence appears to be returning to the cross-Channel market on which so many Kent jobs rely.

This July, as summer finally bloomed, traffic on routes to the Continent increased 10.7 per cent on July 2012, with nearly 2.3 million ferry passengers taking a trip to France, Spain, Holland and Denmark during this month alone.

The short sea Channel ferry routes showed the biggest increase (13 per cent) in passenger numbers in July from operators DFDS, P&O Ferries and MyFerryLink.

Also performing strongly, and up 6.4 per cent on last year, were North Sea routes to the continent operated by DFDS, P&O Ferries and Stena Line; and the Western Channel routes, up 4.2 per cent, serviced by Brittany Ferries, DFDS and Condor Ferries.

UK domestic ferry routes to destinations such as the Isle of Wight, Isle of Man, Channel Islands and Scottish Islands, which carried 2m passengers in July, were also up 9.2 per cent on last year. Irish ferry passenger numbers in July on routes operated by DFDS, Irish Ferries, P&O Irish Sea and Stena Line, were also up 1.3 per cent to 642,000 compared with this month last year.

Discover Ferries director Bill Gibbons said: "These latest figures show an accelerating summer trend for ferry travel, which appeals particularly to families and couples in their own cars, and groups on coaches."

"There is no doubt the industry has recovered from any Olympic effect which last year affected normal summer travel patterns by ferry."

"With the escalating costs for families on other forms of holiday travel, coupled with their increasingly restrictive and petty luggage policies, all these hassles can easily be avoided by ferry travel with your car, or on a coach."

"August ferry bookings are also looking strong, but there is still time for families and friends to get on board for a late summer break."

### FERRY TRAFFIC (MAY-JULY)

UK Continental travel

**UP 7.2 per cent**

Total ferry passengers

**UP 4 per cent**

### FERRY SERVICES IN JULY

Cars transported

**UP 6 per cent**

Continental routes

**UP 8.2 per cent**

Coaches

**UP 10.6 per cent**

Short sea Channel routes

**UP 13 per cent**

Source: IRN Research for Discover Ferries



## Partnership is committed to helping your firm start up

NEW and existing small businesses are set to benefit from a support scheme designed to ensure their birth, survival and success.

Open to projects in the west of the county, the free scheme will be delivered through an initiative funded by the West Kent Partnership and Kent County Council.

The West Kent Partnership is an economic and strategic partnership operating across Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells, and Tonbridge and Malling, jointly funded by the three local authorities.

The West Kent Business Support Programme, launching in September,

is designed to increase the number of start-ups, improve survival rates and business performance, and offer greater support to fast growing businesses.

The programme will deliver free one-to-one advice sessions and workshops covering a number of business-crucial subjects. These include finance and bookkeeping, sales and marketing, exporting and social media. Targeted specialist business support will also be available for home-based businesses and the land-based and rural sector.

Peter Fleming, chairman of the

West Kent Partnership, said: "West Kent has many very successful entrepreneurs, and micro businesses are the lifeblood of our local economy."

"The partnership is committed to providing free advice and training to help businesses thrive and grow and to signpost them to wider support and funding opportunities."

"We are very appreciative of the financial support committed by Kent County Council which, together with funding from the three district councils, has allowed us to deliver this local initiative."

Leader of KCC, Paul Carter,

added: "Many successful businesses comment on the importance of having the right level of support in order to grow their companies here in Kent."

"There is a high quality network of business support organisations and KCC is committed to ensuring SMEs have the right support to help them expand and contribute to the growth of the local economy."

Full details of the programme will soon be available.

Write to [westkentpartnership.mailbox@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:westkentpartnership.mailbox@sevenoaks.gov.uk) to register your interest.

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## Business Week

## Training, courses and careers

### Dockyard is top of the class again as it scoops prestigious award



DOCKYARD: Scoops top award

CHATHAM Historic Dockyard Trust has won another major award for its education programmes.

For the second time in less than ten years, it picked up the prestigious Sandford Award for heritage education.

The Sandford Award is an independently judged, quality assured assessment of education programmes at heritage sites, museums, archives and collections across the UK, focusing on

formal, curriculum-linked education opportunities offered to schools by heritage sites.

Irene Davies, lead judge for the awards, said: "The dockyard ably shows how science, technology engineering and maths (STEM) can be taught whilst exploring the site's heritage.

"Schools can build their own itinerary, choosing to focus on the arts or science or a combination, as they wish."

### Are you insured for life away from home?

STUDENTS preparing to head off to university next month are being urged to ensure they have adequate insurance in place.

Price comparison website Gocompare.com said while the major home insurance policies do cover some student belongings, many of those that do have limits in place, which are worth being aware of.

In particular, it warns to take out cover for IT equipment or musical instruments which may otherwise not be covered.

### Surge continues to land apprenticeships

WHILE many rush to land a university place, increasing numbers are turning their backs on full-time higher education and opting instead for apprenticeships.

The lure of the estimated 20,000 apprenticeships – where those taking part start earning while learning on the job – is proving an attraction to many, according to the National Apprenticeship Service.

Many firms offering jobs demand the equivalent of several strong A-levels.



STILL TIME: Don't give up if you're looking for a university or college course

## Race to secure spot for September continues

A LITTLE over a week since A-level results were published and the race to land a place at university continues – although time is running out fast with many universities now full.

Admissions body Ucas says record number of students were accepted by UK universities within 24 hours of them opening their A-level results.

The figures accepted on the day of the results were up nine per cent on 2012 – the first year in which fees rocketed to up to £9,000 per academic year.

Despite being heavily over-subscribed, the University of Kent, Canterbury Christ Church and the University of Greenwich still had some places available through clearing, although they were going fast. Anyone considering a course at one of the campuses in the county are advised to get in touch to see if any spaces remain.

Despite some 401,540 applications being accepted for undergraduate courses on the day the results were published, there were fewer students entering the clearing process than the previous year.

Ucas estimates those using clearing – a process to secure a spot prompted by higher or lower than expected grades – was down some 9,000 on last year.

At the University of Kent, which has campuses in Canterbury and Medway, there remained some places on some courses going into this week. But by this weekend they were all set to

have been snapped up.

A spokesman for the university said: "We are pretty much full now, subject to a small number of students coming back to us to accept their places.

"We've met our targets and expect to see around 4,300 new undergraduates joining us for the start of the 2013-14 academic year."

Elsewhere in the education system, the clamour for places continues.

With Government regulations phasing in a system where teenagers must remain in full-time education until they are 18, the scrap to secure places ahead of the September start date shows no signs of slowing.

All the major further education colleges in the county continue to have places available and continue to remind youngsters they do not need to remain at school to ensure they meet the new requirements.

The likes of K College, Bromley College, North West Kent College, East Kent College and MidKent College are all holding open days in a bid to attract students and those looking for more vocational courses.

Anyone looking to start a full-time college or university place in September, should start by checking the website of the establishment they are interested in.

If you are looking for a university place, most universities still have special clearing teams in place.

Contact them directly to discuss.

**What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working?**  
Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk) or call us on 01303 817000.



Students gaining 5 GCSEs at A\* - C including English and Maths increased from 42% in 2012 to 52% in 2013.



### The Folkestone Academy Open Evening

Wednesday 2nd October  
5.30pm - 8.00pm

We warmly welcome Year 6 pupils and their parents to discover more about learning at The Folkestone Academy.

The Principal will speak every 30 minutes at 5.30pm, 6.00pm, 6.30pm, 7.00pm and 7.30pm.

[www.folkestoneacademy.com](http://www.folkestoneacademy.com)

Academy Lane, Folkestone.

Tel: 01303 842400

## Call for more girls in physics and maths

CONCERNS have been raised that economic prosperity could be at risk if more students – particularly females – do not take up and complete maths and physics courses at A-level.

Now experts are calling on youngsters not to rule themselves out of engineering jobs in the future by opting out early in their secondary education.

Jayne Hall, policy advisor at the Institution of Engineering

and Technology (IET), said: "Maths and physics are crucial gateway subjects and vital to the industry and economy as a whole.

"With recent results from the IET's skills and demand survey showing that only seven per cent of the engineering and technology workforce are women, action needs to be taken at an early stage by encouraging females into these subjects.

"Students are aware of the importance of A-level maths to starting a career in engineering, but the perceived importance of physics is much lower.

"It is vital that we encourage more students, particularly females, to study these key enabling subjects. Currently, female students effectively rule themselves out of an engineering career at age 14 by not studying maths and physics. We must change this."



# Optimism is building up in the property market

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

IF you subscribe to the theory that taking the pulse of house builders gives a good indication of the future health of the economy, then you may wish to allow yourself a little cautious optimism.

Because, according to Persimmon Homes South East, 2013 has seen a strong start.

And the company is pointing to the key factors of increased demand for new homes and, crucially, improved mortgage availability as underpinning something of a revival.

As the company released its results for the first half of 2013, Andrew Shankster, managing director for Persimmon Homes South East, said the company had made an excellent start.

He explained: "Underlying pre-tax profits for the group are up 40 per cent on last year at £135.3 million (2012: £96.9m) and legal completions in the UK are up seven per cent to 5,022 (2012: 4,712) when the same period is compared.

"Nationally we have seen a 15 per cent increase in visitors to our developments, with weekly private sales reservations 12 per cent ahead of the same period in 2012, rising to 30 per cent stronger following the introduction of the Government's Help to Buy measures in April."

Persimmon includes the Charles Church and Hillreed Homes brands, in addition to providing affordable homes through the Westbury Partnerships.

In the first half of this year it successfully opened 90 new sites – including Cross Quays in Broadstairs and Millers Croft at Edenbridge – and expects to open a further 85 before the end of the year, with new developments due in Amherst and Findon in West Sussex.

Mr Shankster added: "To meet the ever-increasing demand for quality new homes, the company continues to make significant investments in strategic land.

"During the first six months of the year the business acquired 7,538 new plots of land and added a further 800 acres of strategic land to un-



GOOD START: Andrew Shankster

derpin our ability to deliver new homes in the future.

"We remain committed to working closely with communities to deliver excellent new sites in desirable locations, starting construction at these sites as soon as they achieve an implementable detailed planning consent."

In addition to its investment in land, the company is looking to create more jobs across its 24 businesses. Persimmon has recently announced a national recruitment drive to encourage more than 100 trade apprentices to join the business and there is also a corresponding programme of new hires in technical, managerial and sales functions across the company.

The executive added: "Our attention now turns to the second half of this year as we continue to focus on the basics of good housebuilding to deliver further improvement in the performance of the business."

## Small firms warned to develop staff skills or risk missing out on growth

MANY small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) across the south east are suffering a 'skills gap' in their workforce which they fear could stunt growth, limit competitiveness and dent their future profits, according to a new report.

The study shows that while most businesses state they want to address the perceived lack of skills among their workers, many say they do not have the time or allocated budget to do so.

The report, commissioned by Lloyds TSB Commercial Banking, shows that three fifths (60 per cent) of SMEs in the region believe there is a shortage of skills among their

workers – this compares with six out of 10 (61 per cent) firms nationally.

Over a quarter (26 per cent) believe IT know-how is an issue; a similar amount (24 per cent) feel there are gaps in sales and marketing skills; and one in six (16 per cent) cite management/leadership skills as a key area of development. Just over one in 10 (13 per cent) consider project management skills as a cause for concern and one in 10 (10 per cent) mention team building skills as an area that could improve.

Gareth Oakley, regional director for Lloyds TSB Commercial Banking, said: "If businesses are to seize

opportunities for future growth and profitability, investment in skills needs to be at the top of their to do list.

"While there are some businesses that claim they have the skills they need for the future, most do recognise a need to develop skills across their workforce and can pinpoint the key areas in need of improvement.

"Given the recent economic headwinds that south east businesses have had to endure, it is understandable why some have not been able to make skills development a priority, but if they are to reach their future potential growth they'd be wise to consider doing so now."

### LENDING IS UP



Mortgages are on the rise, according to the Council of Mortgage Lenders, underlining a perceived increased fluidity to the housing market.

It says total gross mortgage lending in July increased to £16.6 billion, representing a rise of 12 per cent from £14.8bn in June and 29 per cent higher than the total of £12.9bn in July last year. This is the highest monthly estimate for gross lending since October 2008 (£18.6bn).

Market and data analyst Caroline Purdey said: "An improvement in sentiment and activity continues to show in the UK housing and mortgage markets, with a more positive picture also starting to emerge in the economy."

"Our forward estimate of gross mortgage lending in July reinforces a growing evidence base of a strengthening in the housing and mortgage markets."

### BUSINESS IN BRIEF

#### Risk of worker injury prompts huge fine

A BUILDING company in Ashford has been prosecuted for repeatedly failing to manage risks on a construction site and exposing workers to needless risk of injury.

Canterbury magistrates were told the development site in Ramsgate, run by Ecobuild Homes Ltd, had been visited by Health and Safety Executive (HSE) inspectors seven times in five months.

On one visit inspectors had to stop work at the site immediately due to dangers faced by workers of falling from height and issues with electrical safety.

Ecobuild Homes Ltd, of North Street, was fined a total of £40,000 and ordered to pay costs of £10,035.

#### Cricket club secures turf contra contract

KENT County Cricket Club has agreed a contra deal with Sevenoaks-based turf care specialists Godfreys Golf & Turf.

In exchange for providing the club with an outfield mower and ride-on mower for off-pitch areas, the club will give the firm use of its facilities at its Canterbury headquarters.

A naming rights deal with Shepherd Neame saw it recently named the Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence.

#### Port all set to host top cruise industry event

DOVER Cruise Port is to stage a major luxury cruise event next month.

The CLIA UK & Ireland Luxury Expo runs over September 2-3 and will welcome cruise business delegates from across the UK.

A highlight will be a keynote speech from James Lohan, co-founder of Mr & Mrs Smith, the travel publisher and luxury hotel travel service provider.

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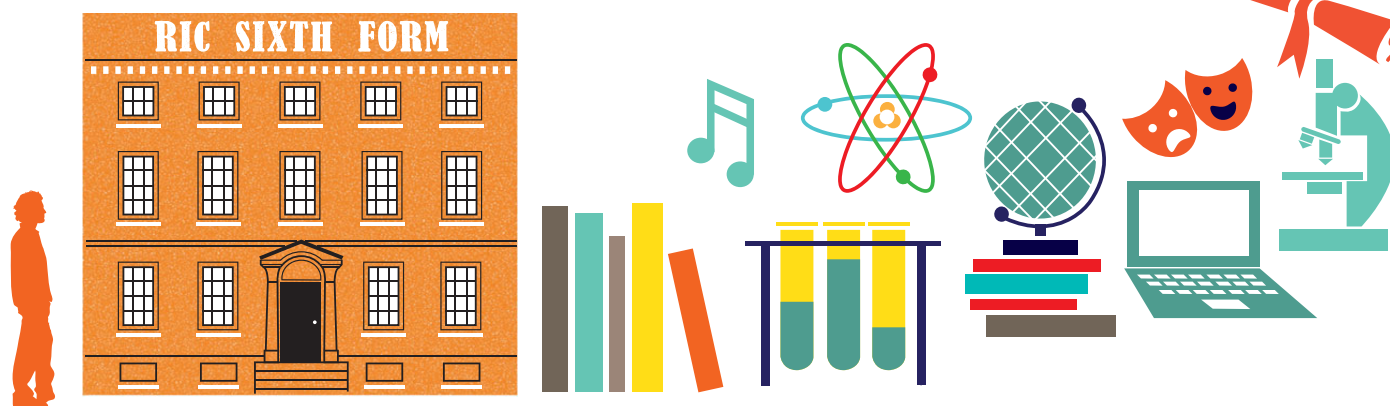
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"On last year's UCAS form I applied for courses that needed low grades. Instead of accepting these I opted to retake." 2012 confirmed place at Bolton. 2013 confirmed place at King's College London

"Retaking raised my confidence and ambition - my previous school told me I would never get into a Russell Group University." 2012 confirmed place at Manchester Met. 2013 confirmed place at Exeter

- 2011 and 2012 Good Schools Guide Award Winner
- Regular Medicine, Dentistry, Law and Veterinary Science placements
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- 2013 Retake placements include Royal Veterinary College, Loughborough, Newcastle, Surrey

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- No uniform
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- College minibuses services
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# Pent Valley students and staff are on their journey from good to outstanding

In early 2013 Pent Valley Technology College was assessed by Ofsted, the Government's education inspectorate, as a 'good' school at which, unlike a number of recently-inspected schools, there were no areas identified as requiring improvement.

Under the leadership of their head, Mario Citro, the staff and students of Pent Valley have now embarked on their exciting and challenging journey to make theirs an 'outstanding' school.

Pent Valley is an inclusive school where the unified goal of the teaching and support staff is to ensure that all students achieve their academic, personal and social potential so that they are fully prepared for the next stage of their lives, be that employment, further education or university.

This goal is delivered under



the words 'Achievement For All', which encompass everything that Pent Valley is about.

Pent Valley ensures through its successful Outreach programme and its Summer School that there is a smooth transition for its pupils from

their primary school into Pent Valley.

As students mature and progress through the school the focus is on the core essential subjects and the provision of a personalised experience designed around real life and the world of work.

Ofsted identified that the students' progress accelerated as they moved through the school, with Pent Valley continuing to deliver good academic results both at pre- and post-16 level.

All students have access to the school's high-quality leisure centre.

The school also has a number of specialised facilities including hair and beauty salons and a motor-mechanics workshop.

Pent Valley students are nurtured by strong community principles of equality, achievement and pride.



## St Catherine's excels again at exam time

ST CATHERINE'S School girls are really celebrating as they have achieved outstanding results.

Known to be a high-performing school, the girls have not been disappointed.

The results this year have smashed through the 80 per cent mark for five A\*s, including English and maths.

Head-teacher Patricia Slonecki spoke with great pride about the achievements of the girls:

"We are thrilled – it is a very turbulent time at

present and our students have performed remarkably well.

"St Catherine's is a happy school where everyone works together.

"I must also express my thanks to the staff, who are so committed to ensuring the girls achieve the very best possible outcomes.

"When we return to school in September, we will have a new chapel and fantastic new computing and catering suites – St Catherine's continues to move forward and excel."

## CALLING ALL PARENTS IN THE FOLKESTONE AREA

We are "GOOD"



- Achievement of pupils ✓
- Behaviour and safety of pupils ✓
- Quality of Teaching ✓
- Leadership or Management ✓

Here's what Ofsted said:

**"Pent Valley is a good school"**

**"Students at Pent Valley make good progress including Post 16"**

**"Progress accelerates at Pent Valley as pupils move through the school"**

**"Student behaviour at Pent Valley is good"**

**"Student conduct and manners at Pent Valley are good"**

**"Pent Valley has a clear vision and direction"**

**"Pent Valley exceeds the government floor standards"**

**"Teaching and homework at Pent Valley is geared to individual students needs"**

**"Students with statements at Pent Valley reach higher standards than similar students nationally"**

**"ICT is well used at Pent Valley"**

Did Ofsted say this about the other schools you are considering? If not you ought to ask

### Year 6 Open Evening

**Monday 16th September 2013**  
**18:00 - 21:00**

There are also open mornings on:  
Mondays: 23rd, 30th September & 7th, 14th October  
Tuesdays: 24th September & 1st, 8th, 15th October

Meet the staff, look around the school and see what the school can offer your child

Headteacher's welcome at 18:15

For further information, please contact Neil Young on 01303 277161 Ext 2245

**If we're not your first choice in Folkestone, we should be!**

## Come here Go anywhere

### Achievements

Value added 2012

- Top 100 schools nationally
- Top 10 in London and SE
- Top in Bexley

**Our Faith, Our Future**

## St Catherine's Catholic School

### Open Events

**Open Evening**  
26th Sept 6.30pm-9pm

**Open Mornings**  
6th July 10am-1pm  
1st Oct 9.30am-12 noon  
2nd Oct 9.30am-12 noon  
14th Oct 9.30am-12 noon  
16th Oct 9.30am-12 noon

St Catherine's is one of the top 100 performing schools. This is due to the progress the students make from KS2 to KS4, 5A\* – C including English & Maths and 3 other subjects.

The Minister for Schools, David Laws, also described St Catherine's as being:

*'Exceptionally effective in educating our pupils.'*

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# Sutton Valence maintains its record of academic excellence in record year

With almost a third of students gaining seven or more A\* and A grades in their GCSEs this year, Sutton Valence School near Maidstone is celebrating once again its best-ever results, with the Year 11 cohort achieving 44.1 per cent A\* and A grades. What's more, the top-set grammar-equivalent students have achieved 89 per cent A\* and A grades.

Against the backdrop of Ofqual announcing harsher marking this year, students at Sutton Valence have a lot to be happy about.

Not only has there been a 63 per cent increase in A\* and A grades over the last six years and this year 13 per cent have achieved 10 A\*s and As, but in the key science, English and mathematics subjects passes at A\* and A are significantly higher this year than last.

Two students achieved



straight A\* and A grades across 12 GCSEs – Hannah Davies and Mia van Diepen – while Charlie Gellett accomplished straight A\*-A grades in 13 GCSEs.

Headmaster Bruce Grindlay said that Sutton Valence's exam results had been consistently improving in recent years. He was delighted that the school had maintained its progress in the top grades but also, with 94 per cent A\* to

Cs, improvement was across the board.

Mr Grindlay said: "Sutton Valence is a broad-intake school and these exceptional results are further testimony to the excellence of the ethos of the school, which aims to add value to every pupil."

"Not only has the whole year gained 94 per cent A\* to C grades but our top, grammar-equivalent set has attained 89 per cent A\* and A grades."

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One of our employers looking for two high-calibre apprentices in Ashford is president of the Electrical Contractors' Association – Phil Fagg, of GW&E Wright.

Mr Fagg said: "With it taking up to four years to train a well-motivated and intelligent learner, as the recession starts to ease we need to get our staffing right for the upturn now as many of the quality operatives who mentor our apprentices will retire in the next five to eight years, so the opportunities are huge going forwards."

Chris Baker, of Terry Baker Electrical Contractors, said: "Male and female apprentices in our industry earn great money, but they also work hard getting skills for life. As business grows, they are very valuable to us."

Mark Syrett, JTL's regional manager for the



South East, said: "With three-quarters of managing directors having been apprentices themselves, and with apprentices earning around £50,000 over the duration of the apprenticeship, this is a career parents can soundly recommend to their families."

*"Early Years provision is outstanding" (Ofsted)*

*Academic excellence, record GCSE and A level results in 2012/13*

*Top 20% of schools for value added at A level*





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**GOOD NEWS TRAVELS FAST:** MidKent College students receive their fantastic results by email

## Kent College: 100 per cent

**K**ent College is celebrating another year of excellent GCSE results following this summer's examinations.

The overall pass rate was 100 per cent, with more than three-quarters of all grades achieved at A\*-B.

Almost half of all exams taken resulted in grades A or A\* and almost all students achieved five grades at A\*-C.

Students who did particularly well included the following top performers: David Cain, Casey Chan, Natalie Chui, Katrina Fray, Bonnie Greenstreet, Alisa Guteneva, Eva Harris, Adelaide Heneghan, Megan Jones, Hugo Lamper, Rosie Maguire, Beth Mason, Holly

Masterson, Alexey Mikhaylov, Harriet Pittard, Robert Rampton, Michael Roscizewski, Helen Sammut, Jake Todd, Sebastian Van Eerten, Kelvin Yuen and Lydia Watkins.

Headmaster Dr David Lamper said: "The pupils have achieved an outstanding set of results and so have secured sound foundations for the next stage in their educational career."

"On top of wonderful A level results last week and IB results that took us to the top 10 nationally, our students can be very proud of their achievements."

"Congratulations to them and to all of my colleagues for the hard work that makes excellent results like these possible."

## Listen to Joseph: he's the voice and he just loves MidKent College

**F**ans of the popular BBC One talent show The Voice would be forgiven for thinking Joseph Apostol had now achieved most of his goals in life.

Despite being just 22, the super-talented vocalist has already performed in front of millions on live TV and even on one occasion as part of a double act with his legendary mentor Sir Tom Jones.

Yet, despite such early success, Joseph had just one thing on his mind after the dust had settled on The Voice – returning to MidKent College to complete his studies.

"I believe education is important for everyone," said Joseph, pictured. "My mum taught me that from a young age and I'd worked hard during my time at MidKent, so I wanted to complete my qualifications and make it all worthwhile."

"I was originally going to study for a business degree at



university after leaving school, but it didn't feel right at the time. I took a gap year and did a lot of voluntary work before deciding to enrol at college.

"I love music and I love to sing, so when I read about the Level 3 Diploma in music I knew it would be great for me, and it's really helped me get to where I am today."

Despite his new-found fame, Joseph has made a point of giv-

ing back to the people he credits with improving his all-round performance skills.

Whether it's returning to sing at special events or persuading the producers of The Voice to carry out filming at the Medway campus where he studied, MidKent College is never far from his mind.

"I loved the whole experience of being at the college," said Joseph.



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## First GEAR MOTORING NEWS

- Insignia facelift is more aerodynamic
- Chevrolet on Trax to conquer SUV sector
- Focus gives petrol rides an EcoBoost



The Jeep is back as the new Grand Cherokee hits the road

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# Driving

drive24.co.uk

By Steve Loader

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SKODA'S biggest bargain of all gets a sister model soon, but it's actually smaller.

Called the Rapid Spaceback, it's 18cm shorter with 20 per cent less boot space than the capacious and aggressively-priced standard Rapid (from £12,905), so you do wonder how the new-comer justifies the name – and we still don't know the price.

But that's not really the point: Spaceback is more a lifestyle label and appears to be part of a bid by Skoda to change its buyer demographics; the Czech brand rides high in customer satisfaction and awards charts but cannot yet escape the impression that it's a brand for discerning older – not old – people.

With a sexier label and a racier fastback rear, Skoda clearly hopes the Spaceback can deliver a more youthful look to its typical buyer profile.

We can expect the usual Rapid petrol and diesel powertrains – the petrols being the pick for pricing, liveliness and driver satisfaction – but Skoda will also market this version with extra sparkle.

The most noticeable change from the standard and staid Rapid packaging will be the Spaceback's tinted tailgate, which can be married to a big panoramic roof to make the car appear as if the entire top is glazed.

Its coupé proportions should also give Skoda a chance to create a sporting vRS version of the Rapid and enable it to justify its name.

Meanwhile, the prestigious vRS badge has now been applied to the new third-generation Octavia range, making the vRS hatchback and estate (from £22,990) the fastest Octavias ever – the petrol hatchback is capable of 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds and a top speed of 154mph.

It's just part of an aggressive range expansion by Skoda, which will end a busy 2013 having launched eight new or revised models, also including a smart facelift for the marque's Superb flagship saloon and estate.

The biggest news to come, though, is surely a revitalised version of the Yeti, one of the most popular cars in Skoda's UK line-up.

Recognising that many people who have bought the rugged-looking car since launch in 2009 never go near any challenging terrain, Skoda says it will relaunch it with more distinct versions: one to suit the urban user and the other aimed at outward-bound types or more rural users.

In line with Skoda's recurring value theme, its dealers are also currently offering a huge 25 per cent discount on the Fabia supermini hatch and estate.

The deal applies to the Fabia hatch SE 69PS (68bhp) 1.2-litre petrol model, normally £12,140 but now slashed to £8,995 – a drop of £3,145 – with the equivalent estate now down from £13,560 to just £9,995.

Those who buy through Skoda Finance also get free servicing for up to three years/30,000 miles.



PREVIEW SKODA RAPID SPACEBACK

Price:  
from £13,000

Driving appeal:  
Not yet driven

Image:  
★★★★

Space:  
★★★★

Value:  
★★★★★

Running costs:  
★★★★★

Reliability:  
★★★★★

How green?:  
★★★★

Best rival:  
Ford Focus

## When is a hatchback a Spaceback?



**CHANGE IN DIRECTION:**  
Skoda is looking to draw in new drivers with the launch of the Rapid Spaceback

DON'T LIKE

NOT SURE

REALLY LIKE

... the Spaceback name much, but Sportback is owned by sister brand Audi and this car has to stand apart from the standard Rapid hatchback.

... traditional Skoda-buyers will see the point in buying something with less space than the Rapid, but they are not the true target here.

... the brand's bid for a new image with the Spaceback, persuading younger buyers to adopt a fresh and trendy Skoda that's still great value.





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# MOTORING



## So many reasons for you to 'like' Drive24

MOTORING website Drive24 has geared up its coverage by launching a new Facebook page and updated blog site with news, reviews, stories, pictures and more.

Drive24 is the local used-car website from Archant, one of the UK's largest independently-owned regional-media businesses and publisher of the Kent on Sunday series.

The site currently lists almost 200,000 used cars and vans nationally and the new Facebook page has been created to connect Drive24's knowledge and experience with that of enthusiastic car-lovers from across the UK.

They can now contribute to the site via Facebook, interacting and engaging with fellow petrolheads by sharing photos, writing interesting pieces about cars and motoring or simply 'liking' online posts.

Drive24 is also featuring a First Car Friday section on the Drive24 blog, where people can share tales about the pleasures, pitfalls and perils of their first car.

We all have fond memories of the first car we own, even if it was an old banger, and often still have a treasured picture, so Drive24 asks: please hunt them out and tell us about them.

Access the Drive24 Facebook page by logging in, searching for Drive24 and hitting 'like'.

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Fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures are obtained for comparative purposes in accordance with EC directives/regulations and may not be representative of real-life driving conditions. Factors such as driving style, weather and road conditions may also have a significant effect on fuel consumption. \*Model shown is Grand Cherokee 3.0 Litre V6 CRD Laredo with solid paint. Promotion available on new Grand Cherokee models registered before 30th September 2013. With Jeep Horizon you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (a charge of 12p per mile for exceeding 10,000 miles per annum in this example) and being in good condition. Finance subject to status. Guarantees may be required. Terms and Conditions apply. At participating Dealers only. We work with a number of creditors including Jeep Financial Services. Jeep Financial Services, PO BOX 4465, Slough, SL1 0RW. Prices and specifications correct at the time of going to press (07/13). <sup>^</sup>Up to 3-years/30,000 miles (whichever comes first) free servicing offer applies to all new 14MY Grand Cherokee models purchased and registered by September 30th 2013. Retail sales only. The Service Plan will cover parts, lubricants and labour as part of the manufacturer standard servicing schedule – ask dealer for full details. Service Plan membership card will be sent to you following vehicle purchase. Offer only valid at authorised Jeep dealers and service agents. \*Claim relates to the Jeep Grand Cherokee nameplate over its lifetime. Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.



## MOTORING

More cars available @ **drive24.co.uk** 

# Big-hearted value of new Jeep

By Steve Loader

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

JEEPS are never more in control than when yomping over difficult terrain, but even the famous 4x4 brand could not conquer the financial morass that was the old Chrysler empire.

However, its bankrupt parent was rescued by a resurgent Fiat, and Jeep's first real fruit of that union is the new Grand Cherokee flagship.

OK, it's not strictly new, as this is a heavily-revised version of the 2011 car, but the transformation is dramatic enough for us to think it is.

The exterior has been streamlined and finished off nicely with a more dynamic version of Jeep's trademark slotted grille, neat headlamps and fashionable LED running lights.

Powertrains benefit from a slick eight-speed automatic gearbox instead of the clunky five-speeder that hampered refinement before; closer ratios and smoother changes have revolutionised the way the big Jeep drives and the new box helps the car slash emissions and fuel consumption, levelling the playing field against key rivals.

The cabin is much improved, too: 'automobiles' are such a disposable commodity for most Americans that they don't set much store by premium finishes, even on premium cars.

There are still oddities like the heavy-grained black-wood finish of the flagship Summit model tested here, and the centre console's expanse of 'brushed alloy' plastic.

The leather seats are thick and luxurious, though, and solid, well-located 'flappy paddles' behind the wheel ease sporty manual changes, while a two-part glass roof lets a spectacular amount of light into a big cabin.

On a practical note, the boot is an impressive 782 litres and, with rear seats fully flat, load space increases to 1,554 litres, comparing well with the capacious Ford Mondeo estate – 537 and 1,728 respectively.

The car's off-road credentials are clear from a modern version of the 4x4 system that made the

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|-----------------|----------------------|
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| Image:          | ★★★★                 |
| Space:          | ★★★★★                |
| Value:          | ★★★★★                |
| Running costs:  | ★★★                  |
| Reliability:    | ★★★                  |
| How green?:     | ★★★★★                |
| Road tax:       | £260 (£475 year one) |
| Best rival:     | Range Rover Sport    |

**Kent dealers:**  
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**JEEP IS BACK:** Fiat has returned the Grand Cherokee to our roads with some heavy revisions to ensure that drivers stop and take notice

original Jeep a Second World War hero and predated the Land Rover by several years. Admittedly, I couldn't go off-road, but the terrain-control system can be left in 'auto' to tackle difficult conditions or switched to four self-explanatory settings: sand, mud, snow or rock.

There is also a manual option for low-ratio gears and the air suspension on more expensive versions can be raised or lowered at will.

Effectively, there is one engine: a refined three-litre V6 diesel developing 247bhp – enough to give this chunky car a respectable 0-62mph of 8.2 seconds. However, there is also a de-tuned version of this powertrain in the £36,995 Laredo entry model (0-62mph in 10.2 seconds) and, at the other extreme, a bonkers 461bhp 6.5-litre V8 petrol option in the flagship SRT8 version, which will hit 62mph in five seconds.

The latter's official combined fuel consump-

tion of 20.2mpg looks optimistic and it incurs the maximum road tax of £1,065 in year one, but it gets people talking about the Grand Cherokee – as the past couple of paragraphs show.

Back in the real world of our £49,495 Summit diesel test car supplied by Kent's newest Chrysler Jeep dealer – Lipscomb at Aylesford, Maidstone – combined consumption is a more palatable 37.7mpg and year one tax £475.

With the air suspension fitted to premium Overland (£45,695) and Summit models, the Grand Cherokee's on-road manners have also improved; handling is not perhaps as sporty as a BMW X5, but ride comfort is impressive.

The best feature is value; the Grand Cherokee range is 'fully loaded' with luxuries and safety kit in the best American style but aggressively priced (from £36,995) against obvious rivals the VW Touareg, the X5 and Range Rover Sport.

## First GEAR MOTORING NEWS



### Insignia's new aerodynamics

VAUXHALL has a New Insignia, except it's the old one with a substantial facelift.

Despite this confusing ploy, it makes the Insignia the world's most aerodynamic car in class and allows a 2.0-litre diesel version to offer the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in class – a road-tax-exempt 99g/km.

The interior has also had a makeover and there are four new powertrains.



### Finding new Trax in style

CHEVROLET plans inroads into the junior SUV sector with its newly-launched Trax (£15,495).

It is offered in two trim levels, with three engines and a choice of front- or all-wheel-drive; flagship LT models (from £17,495) get a particularly generous spec, including seven-inch colour touch-screen display, steering-wheel audio controls with Apple's Siri speech recognition and 18-inch alloys.



### Mean petrol use of Focus

WE are used to miserly diesels eking out their fuel tanks and minimising emissions enough to qualify for road-tax exemption, but Ford has now achieved this with a petrol version of its big-selling Focus.

The 1.0-litre EcoBoost version becomes Europe's first family-level petrol car to achieve 99g/km CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and it's also capable of 67.5mpg (combined cycle).



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\*Offer only applicable to ŠKODA Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS in Meteor Grey, Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS was available at £13,405 between 30/05/13 and 30/06/13. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Vehicle shown may differ from UK specification. Discount only applies to RRP of vehicle. Optional specification cannot be added on this offer. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. †Up to 3 years or 30,000 miles free servicing (whichever comes sooner). Terms and Conditions apply. Available when purchased with Solutions. Available on new retail orders subject to availability before the 30th September 2013. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18s. Excludes the Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance. Freepost ŠKODA Finance. We can introduce you to a limited number of lenders to assist with your purchase, who may pay us for introducing you to them. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.  
Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS: Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the ŠKODA Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS: 128 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.



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Mercedes-Benz

Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the A-Class range: urban 32.1(8.8)-62.8(4.5), extra urban 48.7(5.8)-85.6(3.3), combined 40.9(6.9)-74.3(3.8). CO2 emissions 161-98 g/km.

Model featured is a Mercedes-Benz A 180 SE with manual transmission at £20,945.00 on-the-road including optional metallic paint at £570.00 (on the road price includes VAT, delivery, 12 months' Road Fund Licence, number plates, first registration fee and fuel). Images featured include non-standard options not included in the finance example. \*Finance offer based on Mercedes-Benz A 180 SE on a Mercedes-Benz Agility agreement, on 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charges may apply. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Offers cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Some combinations of features may not be available, please contact your retailer for availability. Terms and conditions apply. Prices correct at the time of publication (07/13). Orders/credit approvals on selected A-Class models between 1 July and 30 September 2013, registered by 31 December 2013. Credit provided subject to status by Mercedes-Benz Financial services UK Limited, MK15 8BA. \*Free servicing based on 3 services over 36 months on A-Class models, excludes A 45 AMG 4MATIC.



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**Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera):  
Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 324 - 88g/km.**

Available on selected models only, at participating retailers. Refer to [www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers](http://www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers) or contact your local Vauxhall retailer for details. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee / Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Vauxhall Motor Finance RH11SR or Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. \*\*Vauxhall Deposit Contribution excludes ADAM, Mokka, Cascada and New Insignia models. †24-60 month term, excluding ADAM models (24-48 month term). Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. Vauxhall Lifetime warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. ^ Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution. Offer(s) available on orders or registrations before 1 October 2013. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. Official Government test Environmental Data. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.





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2013 (13) 107 Active 5dr finished in Laser Red. Ex-demonstrator. Air conditioning, radio/CD/MP3, front fog lights..... **£7,495**

2013 (62) 107 Allure 5dr finished in Plum or Laser. Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, alloys. LED running lights..... **£7,750**

2012 (12) 107 Allure 2Tronic 5dr finished in Zircon Silver. Very low mileage. Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, alloys. LED running lights..... **£7,995**

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2010 (10) 207 Verve 1.4 3dr finished in Flamenco Red. One owner, full history. Bluetooth/USB, alloys, air conditioning ..... **DUE IN**

2008 (58) 207 SW 1.6 Automatic finished in Slate. Low mileage, full history. Air conditioning, panoramic glass roof ..... **DUE IN**

2010 (60) 207 S16 3dr finished in Bianca White. Air conditioning, Bluetooth and USB, alloys, remote locking, electric windows/mirrors..... **£6,695**

2010 (60) 207 Millesim HDi (90) 3dr finished in Thorium Grey. Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows/mirrors ..... **£6,995**

2010 (60) 207 Millesim HDi (70) 5dr finished in White. Low mileage, full history, one owner. Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, alloy wheels..... **DUE IN**

2012 (62) 208 Active 1.0 VTi 5dr finished in Aluminium Silver. Very low mileage. Touch screen Bluetooth/USB, parking aid, air conditioning, alloys ..... **£10,750**

2012 (12) 208 Active HDi (70) 3dr finished in Aluminium Silver. Just 4,200 miles. Touch screen Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, alloys, front fog lights ..... **£10,795**

2013 (13) 208 Feline e-HDi (115) Stop Start finished in Shark Grey with half leather interior. Touch screen satellite navigation/Bluetooth/USB Connectivity/DAB Radio, panoramic glass roof, parking aid, climate control, auto lights/wipers ..... **£14,995**

### PEUGEOT 307/308/3008

2005 (05) 307 Zest 1.4 5dr finished in Silver. One owner, full history. Air conditioning, radio CD, electric windows ..... **DUE IN**

2011 (60) 308 Verve VTi (95) finished in Nera Black. Full history, one owner. Bluetooth/USB, alloy wheels, air conditioning..... **£6,995**

2011 (60) 308 Millesim HDi (90) finished in Babylon Red. Full history, one owner. Bluetooth/USB, alloy wheels, air conditioning ..... **£8,495**

2010 (10) 3008 Sport HDi (110) finished in Aluminium. One owner, low mileage, full history. Parking aid, air conditioning, alloys..... **£9,995**

2010 (10) 3008 Exclusive HDi EGC finished in Shark Grey with Grey leather heated seats. One owner, full history, low mileage. Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, 'heads up' display, panoramic glass roof ..... **£10,995**

2013 (62) 3008 Allure e-HDi (115) EGC finished in Babylon Red. Dual climate control, panoramic glass roof, auto lights/wipers, 'Heads Up' display..... **£16,495**

### PEUGEOT 407/508

2011 (11) 508 Allure HDi 163 Automatic finished in Nera Black. Xenon headlights, climate control, parking sensors, Bluetooth/USB ..... **£11,995**

2012 (12) 508 SW Active HDi 140 finished in Flint. Bluetooth/USB, auto lights/wipers, electric folding mirrors, parking sensors ..... **£13,995**

2012 (62) 508 Allure HDi 140 finished in Aluminium Silver. Full colour satellite navigation, Bluetooth/USB, 'Open&Go' system, automatic lights/wipers, parking aid, dual climate control..... **£15,495**

### OTHER MAKES

2006 (06) Suzuki Jimny JLX+ 1.3 Estate finished in metallic Blue. Just 17,800 miles, full history. 4WD (high and low ratio), detachable tow bar ..... **£5,995**

2010 (10) Renault Clio i-Music 1.2 5dr finished in Silver. Low mileage. Air conditioning, alloy wheels ..... **£6,495**

2008 (08) Citroen C4 Picasso VTR+ HDi finished in Metallic Blue. Seven seats, air conditioning, radio/cd, alloys ..... **£6,995**

2008 (57) Volkswagen Golf Match TDI Automatic finished in Blue. Air conditioning, radio CD ..... **£8,995**

2009 (59) Kia Sportage CRDI XE finished Silver. Low mileage, full history, one owner. Still subject to Kia 7 year warranty. Air conditioning, radio CD ..... **£9,995**

### LCV

2005 (54) Ford Fiesta Van TDCi finished in White..... **£1250 plus VAT**

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Yeti Adventure trim available on 2.0 TDI 110PS 2WD from £18,640 OTR & 2.0 TDI 140PS 4WD from £21,215 OTR. Model shown is Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 140PS 4WD. Available on orders placed from 1st July 2013 while stocks last. Optional specification cannot be added on this offer. 13 years or 30,000 miles free servicing (whichever comes first) is available when purchased with ŠKODA Finance. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18s. Excludes the Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance. Prepost ŠKODA Finance. Terms and conditions apply. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time, are subject to availability and cannot be in conjunction with any other offers. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Model shown may vary from UK specification. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 110PS and 2.0 TDI 140PS 4x4: Urban 44.1 (6.4) – 43.5 (6.5), Extra Urban 64.2 (4.4) – 55.4 (5.1), Combined 55.4 (5.1) – 50.4 (5.6). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 110PS and 2.0 TDI 140PS 4x4: 149 – 134 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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**DUE TO EXPANDING OUR PROVISION WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:****HOUSE MANAGER**

This role involves leading, organising and managing a group of staff working in one of the childcare teams. Arranging and managing the care of the children in that team, and administration.

£22,958 - £25,472 - 41 hours per week, (including split shifts and weekends). Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

**WEEKEND TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS – CHILDCARE**

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students in Childcare Teams during weekends. These roles are aimed at candidates with some experience of Care work.

£5,077 annum - 15 hours per week, (weekends) – Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

Also available: Flexi-bank - £7.21 per hour When required (up to 41 hours per week including split shifts and weekends)

**CHILDCARE SUPPORT ASSISTANTS**

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends. No experience required, full training will be given.

£11,175 plus 10% per annum – 36.5 hours per week, (including weekends – more hours available) – Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

**LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS (TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS – EDUCATION)**

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school and this role is aimed at candidates with some experience.

£12,689 per annum - 37½ hours per week, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mon-Fri - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

**(INDIVIDUAL LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT)**

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school, no experience required, full training will be given.

£11,481 per annum - 37½ hours per week, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mon-Fri - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

\*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, warm, creative and open to learning with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email [personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk) Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 5pm, Thursday 5th September 2013.


[www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](http://www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk)


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We require a full time Cover Supervisor for 37 hours per week, term time only to start in September 2013. Salary will be NJC D2 point 12. The role is for one year only in the first instance.

The school will use its cover supervisor to enhance our pastoral structure and allow teachers to be at the forefront of learning.

- Do you relate well to young people?
  - Could you support students at times when they meet barriers to their learning?
  - Would you be able to liaise with parents, teachers and other professionals in support of individuals?
  - Would you be interested in developing your skills with classes of young people?
- OFSTED awarded the school an outstanding grade in every category in our most recent inspection, commenting that "students thrive within its distinctive ethos, enabling them to succeed academically and to develop into confident, well-rounded individuals who are prepared extremely well for their future lives."

The School has recently been designated one of the first 100 National Teaching Schools, has achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in its provision of CPD and is a National Support School.

If you are interested in working with bright, talented pupils, then please contact the P A to the Headteacher Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, email [harrisonj@sjwms.co.uk](mailto:harrisonj@sjwms.co.uk) 01634 844008 or visit our website [www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk](http://www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk) where further details and an application form can be downloaded.

The Williamson Trust currently consists of

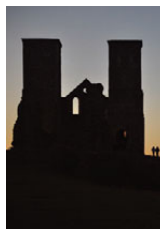
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School, the Hundred of Hoo Academy, High Halstow Primary Academy, Elaine Primary Academy and finally St James Primary as a co-sponsored academy all providing exceptional career development opportunities.

We are committed to the safeguarding and well being of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications – Friday 30th August 2013



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# COMING SOON

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Due to continued expansion and current workload GSE Civil Engineering Ltd and GSE Plant Ltd are seeking the following personnel for works in the Kent, East Sussex, West Sussex and London areas.

**Site Supervisor** with the appropriate experience to manage subcontract packages to a value of £5m

**Groundwork Operatives** with suitable experience and knowledge in all aspects of civil engineering processes

**Plant Operators** for 360 degree machines above 10 tonne

The above positions require the minimum CSCS or CPCs card qualifications.

The successful applicants will be assessed to agree an hourly rate based on ability, experience and knowledge.

Application and CV to [julie.virani@gse-group.com](mailto:julie.virani@gse-group.com)

**NO AGENCIES**

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## LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

### LICENSING ACT 2003: Application for Premises Licence

Mr Shane Jarvis has made an application in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 for a premises licence for Ground Floor Café, Bellerophon House, Doust Way, Rochester, Medway ME1 1HH. The application is for the **Sale of Alcohol (Monday to Sunday 11am – 22:30), and Regulated Entertainment (Monday to Sunday 11am – 22:30)**.

This application has been made to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR. Full details of the application and plans can be viewed at Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR during normal hours of business.

Any interested party who wishes to make a representation about this application should do so in writing to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR or by sending an email to [licensing@medway.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@medway.gov.uk) no later than 29th August 2013

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application which, upon conviction, carries a maximum fine of £5,000.

To advertise in this section  
**01303 817056**

## LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

**NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 AND UNDER THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990**

**KCC/TW/0253/2013 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT ST JAMES' CE JUNIOR SCHOOL, SANDROCK ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT, TN2 3PR.**

KCC Property & Infrastructure Support is applying to the Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for planning permission for the construction of a stand alone classroom block of four classrooms with associated facilities. Extension of existing staff room and construction of new access ramp and steps to existing school. The proposed development is within the Tunbridge Wells - Pembury Road Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB.

Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at [www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications](http://www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications) or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to [planning.applications@kent.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@kent.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 4XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough Council website.

Sharon Thompson  
 Head of Planning  
 Applications Group  
 Kent County Council  
 Dated: 25 August 2013



## LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

### LICENSING ACT 2003:

#### Application for Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Stuart Andrews of Oakside Lodge, Canterbury CT2 9AX has applied to Canterbury City Council for the GRANT STATEMENT of the sale of alcohol to guests staying at Oakside Lodge with a 24 hour hotel license for the premises Oakside Lodge situated at Upper Harbledown, Canterbury CT2 9AX

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at <http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing> or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 16th September 2013.

To advertise in this section  
**01303 817056**

## PLANNING



### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or its setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

**REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 09 SEPTEMBER 2013.**

SW/13/0918 &  
 SW/13/0919:

Change of use of the ground floor to Class A1 retail use and works of alteration in connection with use of the Oast as a Farm Shop - Copton Manor Oast, Ashford Road, Faversham; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0943:  
 Residential development to provide 10 two bedroom 2 storey houses and 4 three bedroom 2 storey houses together with all associated parking and access road including the making up of a short length of Parish Road between the site and the junction with Dreadnought Avenue - Land South East of Parish Road, Minster; **REASON 3 & 4**

SW/13/0945:  
 Retrospective application for the demolition of the granary building. Vibration from work at parsonage farm had caused a partial collapse leaving the building unsafe - Parsonage Farm, Parsonage Lane, Bredgar; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0960:  
 Advertisement Consent for illuminated fascia and projecting sign - 28-29 Preston Street, Faversham; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0977:  
 Proposed packhouse and controlled atmosphere stores to replace existing facilities - Newlands Farm, Lewson Street, Norton; **REASON 3**

SW/13/0978:  
 Erection of retaining wall, construction of steps and footpath (retrospective), erection of estate fence within residential curtilage and construction of pond within agricultural curtilage - Harefield House, Highbens Hill, Selling; **REASONS 1, 2 & 3**

SW/13/0989:  
 Change of use of land from vacant agricultural land to land for the stationing of caravans for residential occupation by single Gypsy-Traveller family with associated works (hard standing, septic tank, shed) - Land at High Oak Hill, Iwade Road, Newington; **REASONS 1, 2, 4 & 6**

SW/13/0999:  
 Listed Building Consent for insertion of ventilation slates, grilles, extract fans and damp proofing measures - Forge House and Barrow House, The Street, Borden; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/1011:  
 Advertisement Consent for 1 No. non-illuminated heritage projecting sign, 1 No. non-illuminated brandmark on existing fascia painted blue, 1 No. non-illuminated reduced width ATM collar - Halifax PLC, 71 High street, Sheerness; **REASONS 1 & 4**

SW/13/1017:  
 Proposed single storey side extension - 1 Albion Place, Newington; **REASON 1**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman  
 Head of Planning

### Notice of intended land disposal Local government act 1972 Section 123 (2A)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council intends to dispose of the freehold interest in one area of land, which is for identification purposes described in the schedule to this notice.

This notice is given in so far as the area of land consists of or forms part of an open space within the meaning of the above section.

A plan of the land is available to view at the Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2AB or at the Weald Information Centre, The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook TN17 3HF.

Objections to the proposed disposal must be made in writing to the Legal Services Manager, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS by no later than 6 September 2013

#### SCHEDULE

Land at the rear of 46-58 Liptraps Lane, High Brooms, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 3AA (approximately 0.168 hectares)

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager  
 Dated 15th August 2013



### THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY)

#### (FOLKESTONE SEAFRONT AND THE STADE PARKING ZONE) ORDER 2012

#### (MARINE PARADE AND LOWER SANDGATE ROAD OPERATING TIMES)

##### (AMENDMENT NO 3) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes the above Order under Sections 1, 2, 32, 44, 45 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order proposes to change the days of operation of the permit holder and pay and display bays from "all days" to "all days between 31st March and the 1st October" in the following streets:

#### ROADS IN FOLKESTONE

**Harbour Approach Road:** West side, from a point 30.3 metres south of its junction with Lower Sandgate Road, south for a distance of 42.7 metres; West side, from a point 24.3 metres north of its junction with Marine Parade, north for a distance of 11.0 metres; **Marine Parade:** South side, from a point 11.4 metres east of its junction with Lower Sandgate Road east for a distance of 121.6 metres; North side, from a point 36.7 metres east of its junction with Lower Sandgate Road east for a distance of 59.7 metres; North side, from a point 110.7 metres west of its junction with Marine Terrace west for a distance of 34.7 metres; North side, from a point 65.4 metres west of its junction with Marine Terrace west for a distance of 30.6 metres; North side, from a point 56.4 metres west of its junction with Marine Terrace west for a distance of 4.6 metres; North side, from a point 31.5 metres west of its junction with Marine Terrace west for a distance of 14.1 metres; South side, from a point 61.6 metres west of its junction with Marine Terrace west for a distance of 80.3 metres; South side, from a point 22.8 metres west of its junction with Marine Terrace west for a distance of 32.9 metres; North side, from a point 14.5 metres east of its junction with Marine Terrace east for a distance of 12.0 metres; North side, from a point 30.8 metres east of its junction with Marine Terrace east for a distance of 15.0 metres; North side, from a point 53.6 metres east of its junction with Marine Terrace east for a distance of 30.7 metres; Lower Sandgate Road: South side, from a point 98 metres west of its junction with Marine Parade, west for a distance of 110 metres; South side, from a point 9 metres east of its junction with Lower Sandgate Road, west for a distance of 85 metres

The Order also proposes to change the shared use permit holder and pay and display bay to 1 hour limited waiting in the following streets:

#### ROADS IN FOLKESTONE

**Lower Sandgate Road:** North west side, from a point 30 metres north-east of its junction with Road of Remembrance, north east for a distance of 27.2 metres

A copy of the proposed Order, a copy of any Orders which may be affected by it, and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing the Order can be inspected at the Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY, during normal office hours.

If you have any views about the proposed Order you should make them in writing to (Zone C), Parking Services, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY. Or email [TRO.Consultation@shepway.gov.uk](mailto:TRO.Consultation@shepway.gov.uk) stating "Zone C" in the subject title.

We must receive any representations before 5pm on Monday 16th September 2013 for them to be considered. For legal reasons we cannot accept representations over the phone or in person.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact Shepway District Council (Transportation Department), Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY (01303 853240 during normal office hours).

This notice is published by Shepway District Council on behalf of Kent Highway Services, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XX.

Kent Highway Services is part of Kent County Council.



PLANNING



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING APPLICATIONS  
LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS  
CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

|              |   |      |
|--------------|---|------|
| DOV/13/00622 | Widening of cliff path and associated excavation works<br><b>National Trust, Langdon Cliffs, St. Margarets, Dover, CT16 1HJ</b>   | ARW  |
| DOV/13/00641 | Change of use to holiday let<br><b>Updown Park, Updown, Betteshanger, Northbourne, Deal, CT14 0EF</b>   | SLB  |
| DOV/13/00642 | Outline application for the erection of two tree houses and owner's dwelling in connection with holiday let business<br><b>Updown Park, Updown, Betteshanger, Northbourne, Deal, CT14 0EF</b>   | SLB  |
| DOV/13/00648 | Demolition & replacement of existing outbuildings to accommodate existing ancillary office, workshop & storage uses with part changed to ancillary residential annex<br><b>Hop Cottage, Saddlers Hill, Goodnestone, Canterbury, CT3 1PF</b> | LCN  |
| DOV/13/00522 | Erection of 16 dwellings, cycle and bin stores, construction of access road and vehicular access, associated car parking and landscaping<br><b>Bede and Dunstan Houses, College Road, Deal, CT14 6DA</b>                                    | MAJ  |
| DOV/13/00420 | Painting of exterior surfaces, installation of window shutters to first floor and replacement front door<br><b>7 North Street, Deal, CT14 6NA</b>   | SLC  |
| DOV/13/00541 | Erection of a detached garage and store (existing garage and store to be demolished)<br><b>Orchard Lea, The Street, Staple, Canterbury, CT3 1LN</b>   | RSLB |
| DOV/13/00632 | Conversion of part of garage to habitable room<br><b>18 St Margarets Drive, Walmer, Deal, CT14 7UJ</b>  | CON  |
| DOV/13/00668 | Installation of replacement UPVC windows<br><b>Flats A &amp; B, 51 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, CT14 7DP</b>   | CON  |
| DOV/13/00646 | Internal alterations<br><b>15 High Street, Wingham, Canterbury</b>  | LCN  |
| DOV/13/00650 | Erection of a detached garage and log store<br><b>Impetts, West Stourmouth, Canterbury, CT3 1HS</b>   | SLB  |

Reason for Advert Codes:-

**MAJ** - Major Development **LCN** - Listed Building in a Conservation Area  
**ARW** - Affects a Public Right of Way **SLB** - To affect the setting of a Listed Building  
**CON** - Within Conservation Area

**RSLB** - Affects the setting of a Listed Building and a public right of way  
**SLC** - To affect the setting of a Listed Building & Conservation Area  
**Some applications are not publicised in this list.** All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website [www.dover.gov.uk/planning](http://www.dover.gov.uk/planning) or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

**Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.**

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 13/02324/LBC   | Weirleigh Gedges Hill, Brencley                           |
| - Listed Building Consent: Replacement detached garage (LB)  |   |
| 13/02285/HOUSE   | Oakhurst Lodge 76 Mount Ephraim, Culverden                |
| - Single storey rear conservatory (LB) (CA)  |   |
| 13/02288/LBC   | Oakhurst Lodge 76 Mount Ephraim, Culverden                |
| - Listed Building Consent: Single storey rear conservatory (LB)  |   |
| 13/02293/FUL   | Hill House The Street, Frittenden                         |
| - Extension of time - Erection of a 2-storey detached house and garage (Planning permission TW/10/02565 refers) (CA) |   |
| 13/02333/FUL   | Black Swan Hall Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst                 |
| - Change of use of ancillary annexe accommodation from residential to holiday let (LB)                               |   |
| 13/02290/HOUSE   | 46A Mount Sion Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks |
| - Single-storey rear extension (CA)  |   |
| 13/02294/HOUSE   | Maytrees Pembury Road, Park                               |
| - Attached double garage to side (CA)  |   |
| 13/02328/HOUSE   | Aloha Chiltern Walk, Park                                 |
| - Single storey extension to west elevation (CA)   |   |
| 13/02286/HOUSE   | 20 Castle Street Southborough, Southborough Town Council  |
| - Demolition of existing lean-to at side/rear and replace with single-storey side extension; Front porch (CA)        |   |
| 13/02307/HOUSE   | St Johns House Groombridge Hill, Speldhurst               |
| - Erection of oak framed garage with room above and extension of driveway (LB) (CA)                                  |   |

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA)  
Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website ([www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman  
Head of Planning Services,  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 24 August 2013



DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS

Dover District Council as Local Planning Authority, is considering an application for Full Planning Permission as follows:-



**PROPOSAL:** Hybrid planning application seeking full planning permission for the re-contouring of the spoil and restoration of the former Colliery, proposed siting of a photovoltaic array (10MW), restoration of the former railway halt including siting of visitor interpretation boards and rock store, landscape and ecological works and footpath link; and application for outline planning permission for the siting of industrial units (Class B2) (10,000 sq m GEA) with all matters reserved, with the exception of layout, scale, associated car parking and means of access

**LOCATION:** Former Tilmanstone Colliery Tip, Pike Road, Eythorne, Dover, CT15 4DJ

The proposal is a major development and is accompanied by an Environmental Statement

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, plans and any other submitted documents via the Council's website at [www.dover.gov.uk/planning](http://www.dover.gov.uk/planning) or at:-

Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday until 13/09/2013

The Officer dealing with this application is Mrs Coles  
Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to Planning, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent CT16 3PJ, (to include a contact address) and quoting reference number **DOV/13/00654**, to arrive not later than 13/09/2013

Failure to meet this deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. Letters and emails may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the Secretary of State and the applicant if there is an appeal against the Council's decision.

The Council will not normally enter into correspondence with the public on applications. **There will be no response until the application has been determined.**

Public speaking has been introduced for applications reported to the Planning Committee. Further information may be obtained from the Development Control Section or at the Council's website at [www.dover.gov.uk/planning](http://www.dover.gov.uk/planning).

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Act  
Notice of Applications

**MA/13/0526/S** - LITTLE GODDINGTON, GODDINGTON LANE, HARRIETSHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1JX - Part retrospective and part proposed application for erection of single storey side extension, 1(no) shed and 1(no) shed with raised pond and decking area. **Reason: 1**

**MA/13/1084/N** - 42, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Retrospective application for Listed Building Consent to retain an existing conservatory. **Reason: 3**

**MA/13/1372/S** - TESCO EXPRESS, 300, TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8TG - Installation of new external chiller under existing canopy to northern side elevation. **Reason: 1**

**MA/13/1394/S** - BLACKMOOR FARMHOUSE, SHEEPHURST LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9NT - Erection of a two storey rear extension. **Reason: 1**

**MA/13/1395/S** - BLACKMOOR FARMHOUSE, SHEEPHURST LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9NT - Application for listed building consent for the erection of a two storey rear extension and associated internal alterations. **Reason: 3**

**MA/13/1408/N** - LYLE'S YARD, BICKNOR LANE, BICKNOR, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 8BA - two storey extension to east elevation. **Reason: 1**



Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **8th September 2013**, quoting the application number.

**Rob Jarman**, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 25th August 2013

Folkestone  
Hythe & Romney Marsh  
Shepway District Council



THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)  
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

**Y13/0774/SH** - 17A Sycamore Gardens Dymchurch Romney Marsh Kent TN29 0LA - Development to form a connecting balcony between the existing front balconies of 17 and 17A

**Y13/0730/SH#** - Shell Garage 79 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AZ - Installation of an ATM

**Y13/0620/SH#** - Brenzett Place Farm Yard Ivychurch Road Brenzett Kent - Listed building consent for the conversion of the existing granary building to 3 dwellings, the former cart shed for associated parking and domestic storage and the rebuilding of the former Listed barn to provide a single dwelling.

**Y13/0619/SH#** - Brenzett Place Farm Yard Ivychurch Road Brenzett Kent - Change of use and conversion of existing granary building to 3 dwellings, use of former cart shed for associated parking and domestic storage and rebuilding of former Listed barn to provide a single dwelling.

**Y13/0729/SH** - Payers Park Folkestone Kent - Engineering operations, installation of lighting, erection of structures and revisions and alterations to car parking layout, forming improvements to existing area of open space.

**Y13/0828/SH** - 1 - 3 High Street Dymchurch Romney Marsh Kent TN29 0NG - Display of an internally illuminated fascia sign, together with assorted non-illuminated signage in connection with store re-branding.

**Y13/0360/SH#** - Land Opposite Old Mill Cottage (Former Lymyne Airfield) Aldington Road Lymyne Kent - Outline application for the development of 250 dwellings, village green, a local centre comprising two retail (Class A1/A3) units and a GP surgery (Class D1), public open space and playing fields together with vehicular access, car parking and landscaping (matters relating to access only).

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to [planning@shepway.gov.uk](mailto:planning@shepway.gov.uk). Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney  
+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (\*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning  
Shepway District Council

To advertise in this section

01303 817056

Planning applications



Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010  
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995  
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990  
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990  
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

**CA/13/01491/FUL:** 12 Lower Chantry Lane, Canterbury, CT1 1UF Residential redevelopment for 32 affordable housing units comprising four, one bedroom and 28, two bedroom flats and associated works. **Applicant: Silvercoin Ltd** Reason: Major development.  
**CA/13/01520/FUL:** 4 Longmarket, Canterbury, CT1 2JS Application of glass tiles to the existing stailfiser on the shopfronts.  
**Applicant: Lakeland Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01534/FUL:** 43 Mill Lane, Harbledown, CT2 8NF Widening of existing driveway. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Sayer**  
Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01535/FUL:** 51 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DP Erection of single-storey extension to rear of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr S Allinson**  
Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01538/FUL:** 64 Station Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5QH Demolition of existing garage and erection of a two-storey side/rear extension.  
**Applicant: Mr P Read** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01541/FUL:** Flat 2, 97 Harbour Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AD Replace four windows and two doors. **Applicant: Miss Epton**  
Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01546/TPO:** 44 Eddington Lane, Herne Bay, CT6 5TT Re-pollarding and removal of lower overhanging branches of lime tree subject of TPO No 1 1959. **Applicant: Mr Cox** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01553/LB:** The Bungalow, North Stream, Marshside, Chislehurst, CT3 4EE Erection of replacement dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Chris Martin**  
Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/13/01551/FUL:** Charlton Place, Charlton Park, Bishopsbourne, CT4 5JA Demolition of existing garages/outbuildings and replacement with two blocks of garages/stores. **Applicant: Mrs G Wales** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.  
**CA/13/01553/LB:** Charlton Place, Charlton Park, Bishopsbourne, CT4 5JA Demolition of existing garages/outbuildings and replacement with two blocks of garages/stores. **Applicant: Mrs G Wales** Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to [development.management@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:development.management@canterbury.gov.uk) to arrive on or before **Monday 16 September 2013**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: [www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc)

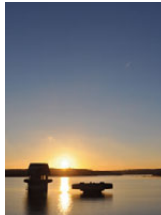
Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration  
Friday 23 August 2013

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## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY &amp; VILLAGE GREENS

**PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY - IN THE DISTRICT OF DOVER****NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981****DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (RESTRICTED BYWAY EE485 AT STOURMOUTH) DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2013**

The above Order was made on 14th August 2013 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Restricted Byway (and upgrading the affected sections of Public Footpaths EE133 and EE129 to Restricted Byway status) with a width of 3 metres which commences at the northernmost end of Church Lane at West Stourmouth (NGR TR 2562 6308) and runs in a north-easterly through south-easterly direction for 1.25km to a junction with Plucks Gutter at East Stourmouth (NGR TR 2662 6301). All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent CT16 3PG or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there at the price of £5.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to Ms. Melanie McNeir at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than Wednesday 9th October 2013. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

**PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE****NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980****WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981****KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****PUBLIC FOOTPATH KM42 (PART) AND (KM43) (PART) EAST FARLEIGH PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT ORDER 2013**

The above Order was made on the 14th day of August 2013 under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 and will divert:

- (1) The entire width of that length of Public Footpath numbered KM42 commencing from a point approximately 75 metres to the west-northwest of its

junction with Workhouse Lane (adjacent to Bumbles Cottage) and running in a generally north-westerly direction for approximately 110 metres to its junction with Public Footpath KM43. Between the points C and F on the Order Plan.

- (2) The entire width of that length of Public Footpath numbered KM43 commencing from a point approximately 125 metres to the north of its junction with Public Footpath KM44 (at Pleasant Valley Farm) and running in a generally north-north-easterly direction for approximately 220 metres to the unaffected length of Public Footpath KM43 approximately 30 metres south west of its junction with Workhouse Lane (adjacent to the property known as The Chestnuts). Between the points A, F and E on the Order Plan.

The above Order will provide:

- (1) A new length of Public Footpath numbered KM42 commencing from a point approximately 75 metres to the northwest of its junction with Workhouse Lane (adjacent to Bumbles Cottage) and running for approximately 20 metres in a generally northerly direction with a width of 2 metres and then turning to run in a generally north westerly direction with a width of 1.6 metres for approximately 95 metres to connect with the unaffected length of Public Footpath KM43 (which lies approximately 30 metres south west of the junction with Workhouse Lane adjacent to The Chestnuts). Between the points C, D and E on the Order Plan.

- (2) A new length of Public Footpath numbered KM43 with a width of 2.5 metres commencing from a point approximately 125 metres to the north of its junction with Public Footpath KM44 (at Pleasant Valley Farm) and running in a generally east-south-easterly direction for approximately 90 metres and then turning generally north-north-easterly for approximately 142 metres to a junction with Public Footpath KM42 approximately 75 metres northwest of the point where Public Footpath KM42 meets with Workhouse Lane (adjacent to Bumbles Cottage). Between the points A, B and C on the Order Plan.

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Orders and Maps may be seen free of charge at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, King Street, Maidstone or at Kent County Council, Customer and Communities, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Orders and maps may also be bought there.

Any representation about or objection to the orders may be sent or delivered in writing to Mr Chris Wade at Kent County Council (address as above) no later than the 23rd day of September 2013. Please state the grounds on which it is made. If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may itself confirm the orders as unopposed orders. If the orders are sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for confirmation any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the orders.

**PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF THANET****NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT****KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH TRX6 RAMSGATE) DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2013**

The above Order was made on the 14th day of August 2013 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Public Footpath commencing on Harbour Parade between property numbers 64 and 66 and initially runs northwards over a flight of steps, at the top of the steps the path also turns in an easterly direction where it continues through a tunnel with a lesser width of 1.2 metres to its junction with Madeira Walk. The path has a total length of 52 metres. From the point where the path turns eastwards, a small spur leads northwards for two metres to the Service Road. As shown between the points A B C and D on the Order Plan.

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge at the offices of Thanet District Council. Cecil Square, Margate Kent or at Kent County Council, Customer and Communities, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and map may also be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent or delivered in writing to Mr. Chris Wade at Kent County Council (Address as above) no later than 7th October 2013. Please state the grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

**PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING****NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR443 IN THE PARISHES OF EAST MALLING AND LARKFIELD, AND DITTON****PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR443 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpath MR443, between its junction with New Hythe Lane and NGR TQ 714 598 from the 19th August 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months,

although it is expected that it will reopen before October 2013.

The path is to be closed because works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michele Snoding Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

[http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment\\_and\\_planning/countryside\\_access/traffic\\_regulation\\_orders.aspx](http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx)

**PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS****NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH WB10 IN TUNBRIDGE WELLS****PUBLIC FOOTPATH WB10 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath WB10, between its junction with Dorking Road and the Hilbert Recreation Ground from the 9th September 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before October 2013.

The path is to be closed because works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via King George V Hill and Hillbert Road and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Jonathan Bibby Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

[http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment\\_and\\_planning/countryside\\_access/traffic\\_regulation\\_orders.aspx](http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx)

**Public Rights of Way and Access Service**

Kent County Council  
Invicta House  
County Hall  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME14 1XX

Dated: 25th August 2013

*This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.*

For further information, please contact  
Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service,  
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess](http://www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess)

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## HIGHWAYS

## HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

**THE RIDGEWAY, SMEETH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of The Ridgeway, Smeeth.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The closure is planned to commence from 10 September 2013 for up to 5 days. Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside normal working hours.

The alternative route is via A20 Hythe Road and Church Road.

## HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

**FAVERSHAM ROAD, SEASALTER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow a detailed examination of the railway bridge to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Faversham Road, Seasalter.

Faversham Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge, with access from either direction up to the point of closure, but no through access.

The closure is planned to commence on Monday 9 September at 22:00 hours through until 06:00 hours. The alternative routes are

**WESTBOUND** via Seasalter Lane, A299 Thanet Way, Staple Street, Staple Street Road, Head Hill, Head Hill Road and Seasalter Road

**EASTBOUND** via Seasalter Road, Head Hill Road, Head Hill, Whitstable Road, A299 Thanet Way, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Borstal Hill, Joy Lane and Faversham Road.

**SHEPHERD'S CLOSE ROAD, PATRICKBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of telegraph pole replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Shepherd's Close Road, Patrickbourne.

Shepherd's Close Road will be closed westwards from the junction with Carters Lane towards Keeper's Hill.

The closures are planned from 29 August 2013 for up to 3 days between 09:30 hours to 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via Keeper's Hill, The Street, Station Road, Chalkpit Hill and Carters Road.

**THE BROADWAY, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of The Broadway, Herne Bay.

The Broadway will be closed between the junctions with Grand Drive and Alexandria Drive.

The closure is planned to commence from 9 September 2013 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Ridgeway Cliff, Carlton Hill and Grand Drive.

## HIGHWAYS – DOVER AREA

**MIDDLE DEAL ROAD, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Middle Deal Road, Deal.

Middle Deal Road will be closed in the vicinity of numbers 276 to 282.

The closure is planned to commence from 9 September 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed

The alternative route is via Bowling Green Lane, A258 London Road and Middle Deal Road.

**RAMSGATE ROAD, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER AUGUST 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow the demolition of pedestrian bridges as part of the redevelopment of Discovery Park, Kent County Council has made an Order to prohibit through traffic on

Ramsgate Road, Sandwich.

Ramsgate Road will be closed in the vicinity of Discovery Park (formerly Pfizer) with no through access between Monks Way and A256 Sandwich Bypass. Local access will remain from either direction up to the point of closure.

Closures are planned for the 2 weekends starting Friday 31 August and Friday 6 September 2013.

Both closures will be from Friday evening at 18:00 hours through until the following Monday at 06:00 hours.

If adverse weather conditions or other issues prevent works going ahead on the above dates, the closures will be deferred to one or both of the following weekends (13 & 20 September), for the same times.

The alternative through route is via Monks Way, A256 Sandwich Bypass and Ramsgate Road.

Please note these closures were initially planned for May 2013.

## HIGHWAYS – GRAVESHAM AREA

**LOWER HIGHAM ROAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of Footway surfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to become effective on 9th September for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The following restriction will apply while the works are in progress.

No Entry into lower Higham Road from the Lion Roundabout (A226 Rochester Road)

The alternative route is via A226 Rochester Road, Chalk Road, Lower Higham Road one way

## HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

**FIVE OAK LANE, STAPLEHURST (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because it is necessary to install a new water main, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Five Oak Lane, Staplehurst, on or after 26 August 2013 for up to 25 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Wilden Park Road to Pinnock Lane.

The alternative route is via Wilden Park Road, Pagehurst Road, Marden Road, A229 High Street, Pinnock Lane.

**RECTORY LANE, BARMING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of a new electric supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rectory Lane, Barming, on or after 27 August 2013 for up to 15 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Glebe Lane to outside number 10.

The alternative route is via Glebe Lane, Farleigh Lane, Rectory Lane.

**SIMMONDS LANE, OTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of kerbing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Simmonds Lane, Otham, on or after 11 September 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The whole length of the road will be closed.

The alternative route is via White Horse Lane, Honey Lane.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS) AMENDMENT NO.2 ORDER 2013**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which is to :-

(1) Implement a 40MPH Speed Limit along Longend Lane from its junction with Green Lane to its junction with Maidstone (B2162)(2)Implement a 40MPH speed limit along Green Lane for a point 120 metres east of its junction with Collier Street (B2162) to a point 70 metres north west of its junction with Longend Lane.

A copy of the proposed Order, which comes into operation on 26/08/2013, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Kent County Council Highways Depot,

Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

## HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

**BAYLEYS HILL, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of a new gas supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bayleys Hill, Sevenoaks, on or after 27th August 2013 for up to 7 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction of Bowzell Road and White House Road and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Bowzell Road, Long Barn Road, Hubbards Hill, Gracious Lane, White House Road and vice versa.

**HOLMESDALE HILL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of allowing BT Safe access to overhead network for cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Holmesdale Hill, on or after 30th August 2013 for up to 1 Day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed Opposite Tree Tops and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Paddock Close, East Hill and Holmesdale Road.

**VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow a programme of carriageway surface treatment works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Sevenoaks, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after **28TH August 2013** for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below in the Schedule listed.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 7 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

Generally within seven days of completing the works the road markings will be reinstated and the ironworks (road drain covers, manhole covers, etc) will be adjusted to suit the new surface, if necessary.

## SCHEDULE

## SEVENOAKS MICROSURFACING

**ST. BOTOLPH'S ROAD (Service Road) and THE VINE**

– Road closed between A225 Dartford Road and St. Botolph's Road (junction with Pound Lane).

**28th Aug 2013** 08:30hrs to 17:30hrs.

Alternative route via A225 Dartford Road, Pembroke Road, Tubs Hill, St. Botolph's Road.

**BIRCHIN CROSS ROAD/BOWER LANE, SHOREHAM** – Road closed between Clarkes Green Road and Bower Lane junction with Romney Street.

**31st Aug to 1st Sept 2013** 09:00hrs to 17:30hrs

Alternative route via Birchin Cross Road, Rowdown Lane, Pilgrims Way East, A225 Shoreham Road, Station Road and Bower Lane. (And vice versa)

**CHELSEFIELD LANE/SHOREHAM LANE, SHOREHAM** – Road closed between Hewitts Road and Shacklands Road.

**2nd Sept to 3rd Sept 2013** 08:30hrs to 17:30hrs

Alternative route via Hewitts Road, A224 Orpington-Bypass and Shacklands Road. (And vice versa)

**SPOUT LANE/B269 POOTINGS ROAD, WESTERHAM** – Road closed between B2026 Main Road and Coakham Farm.

**4th Sept to 5th Sept 2013** 09:00hrs to 17:30hrs

Alternative route via B2026 Main Road, Swan Lane, B2027 Four Elms Road and B269 Pootings Road. (And vice versa)

**HONEY POT LANE/LITTLE BROWNS LANE, EDENBRIDGE** – Road closed between stream o/s Little Browns Farm and eastwards to east side of double bends.

**6th Sept 2013** 08:30hrs to 17:30hrs

Alternative route via Little Browns Lane, Crouch House Road, Stangrove Road, B2026 Mont St. Aignan Way, Station Road, Main Road, Hole Lane, Monks Lane and Honey Pot Lane.

**STATION ROAD, BLOWERS HILL AND BUCKHURST LANE, COWDEN** – Road closed between B2026 Hartfield Road and Cowden Pound Road.

**9th Sept to 11th Sept 2013** 09:00hrs to 17:00hrs

Alternative route via B2026 Hartfield Road, Cowden Pound Road, Buckhurst and Cowden Pound Road. (And vice versa)

## HIGHWAYS – SHEPWAY AREA

**BECKETT'S LEVEL CROSSING, BROOKLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of level crossing maintenance works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Beckett's Level Crossing, Brookland, Romney Marsh.

Beckett Road (Fairfield Road), Brookland will be closed at the level crossing.

The closures are for the 3 nights of Tuesday 27, Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 August from 23:00 hours through until 06:00 hours each night

The alternative route is via Beckett Road, A259 Rye Road, Brookland By-pass, Straight Lane, Brenzett Corner, B2080 Rhee Wall, Rhee Wall Road, Station Road and Beckett Road.

**CASTLE HILL AVENUE, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to provide a sewer system for a new housing development, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone.

This affects the section of Castle Hill Avenue between Shorncliffe Road and Bouverie Road West.

Each carriageway will need to be closed in turn, for up to 4 weeks each.

The southbound carriageway (towards Sandgate Road and The Leas) will be closed between the junctions with Shorncliffe Road and Ingles Road, from 9 September 2013 for an estimated period of up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via A2034 Shorncliffe Road, Cheriton Road, A2033 Middelburg Square and Bouverie Road West.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the southbound carriageway will suspended between the junctions with Shorncliffe Road and Ingles Road, to allow limited access when this is safe.

The northbound carriageway will then be closed from a planned start date of 7 October for up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via A2033 Castle Hill Avenue, Sandgate Road, Earl's Avenue and Shorncliffe Road.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the northbound carriageway will suspended between the junctions with Bouverie Road West and Shorncliffe Road to allow access, including to the Magistrates Court and Civic Centre.

## HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

**OSIER ROAD, TEYNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow a detailed inspection of the railway bridge to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Osier Road, Teynham.

Osier Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge.

For further information, please contact  
**Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,**  
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)





## HIGHWAYS

The closure is planned from Thursday 12 September at 22:00 hours through until 06:00 hours.  
The alternative route is via Lower Road and Conyer Road.

**PORTERS LANE, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Porters Lane, Faversham.

Porters Lane will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with A251 Ashford Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 9 September 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A251 Ashford Road, A2 London Road, Brogdale Road and Porters Lane.

**SEASALTER ROAD, GRAVENEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Seasalter Road, Gravenev.

Seasalter Road will be closed in phases between the properties Tashmiri Mews and Fairview.

The closure is in the vicinity of the junction with Cleve Hill Road, and access to Cleve Hill Road will be maintained from one or other direction, as indicated by signage on site.

The closure is planned to commence from Wednesday 11 September 2013 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside normal working hours.

The alternative route is via Faversham Road (note 11' 6" height restriction), Joy Lane, Borstal Hill, A299 Thanet Way, Head Hill and Head Hill Road.

**HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING**

**HATHAM GREEN LANE, STANSTED (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because it is necessary to install a new water supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hatham Green Lane, Stansted, on or after 27 August 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from outside Parsonage Farm to The White Bungalow.

The alternative route is via Ash Lane, South Ash Road, Pease Hill, Malthouse Road, Plaxdale Green Road.

**HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA**

**A28 CANTERBURY ROAD, WESTGATE ON SEA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit westbound through traffic on part of A28 Canterbury Road, Westgate on Sea.

Canterbury Road, Westgate will be closed westbound only between the junction with Minster Road and the western junction with Queen Bertha's Avenue.

Closures are planned for the nights of 11 & 12 September 2013 between 07:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night

The alternative route is via A28 Canterbury Road, Marine Terrace, A254 Belgrave Road, Eaton Road, Grosvenor Gardens, High Street, A255 St Peter's Road, B2052 College Road, A254 Ramsgate Road, Margate Road, A256 Haine Road, Lord of the Manor interchange, A299 Hengist Way, Canterbury Road West, Thanet Way and A28 Canterbury Road Eastbound traffic is unaffected.

**DUNCAN ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of repairs to a faulty sewer control valve, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Duncan Road, Ramsgate, as follows.

Duncan Road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Ellington Road, with access remaining from Crescent Road up to where the road is closed.

The closure is planned to commence from 2 September 2013 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative routes are via Ellington Road, Codrington Road and Crescent Road or via Ellington Road, South Eastern Road and Crescent Road.

**NORTHDOWN WAY, MARGATE & HARRISON ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway and drainage repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on sections of Northdown Way, Margate and Harrison Road, Ramsgate, as shown below

**NORTHDOWN WAY, MARGATE** will be closed between the junctions with St Anthony's Way and Millmead Road

**27 August for up to 4 days**, between 08:00 hours and 16:00 hours each day

The alternative route is via Millmead Road, Millmead Avenue, Northdown Park Road and Northdown Way.

**HARRISON ROAD, RAMSGATE** will be closed between the junctions with Florence Road and Vale Square

**30 August for 1 day**, 08:00 hours to 17:00 hours

The alternative route is via Florence Road, Cannonbury Road, West Cliff Road, Crescent Road and Vale Square

**HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA**

**SPONDEN LANE, SANDHURST (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because it is necessary to restore a BT Openreach service, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sponden Lane, Sandhurst, on or after 30 August 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from A268 Queen Street to outside Sponden Oast.

The alternative route is via A268 Queen Street/Rye Road, A28 Hastings Road, B2086 Benenden Road/Rolvenden Road/The Street, Iden Green Road, Mill Street.

**John Burr**  
Director of Highways & Transportation  
Kent County Council  
Invicta House  
County Hall,  
Maidstone  
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 25th August 2013

For further information, please contact  
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## Sport

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BRILLIANT! Gemili, left, is on a high after final

## ATHLETICS

## Gemili praised by legend Bolt for final feat

ADAM Gemili has drawn praise from sprinting superstar Usain Bolt for his incredible progress at the World Championships in Moscow.

The 19-year-old from Dartford took 0.32 seconds off his personal best to make the final of the 200 metres, where he lined up alongside the Jamaican legend, who won gold.

After a strong start, Gemili was pipped to a bronze medal in the final few metres, finishing fifth in a time of 20.08 seconds. American Curtis Mitchell clinched bronze in 20.04 seconds.

"I am still in shock [that] he actually made the finals," said Bolt. "I have never seen him run a 200m ever. I know him as a 100m runner, so the fact that he came out and made a final – for me, that's a plus.

"In this first final, especially in the 200m, that is just outstanding."

Gemili said after the race: "What an experience this whole championships has been for me. There are no words to describe how I'm feeling. I knew I would be in the mix if I executed my race. I didn't execute it as well as I could have, but I still have a lot of people to thank. I'm very lucky and I'm really happy."

There was, though, heartache for Gemili and the British 4x100m relay team, who thought they had claimed bronze in the final of the event only to be disqualified for making a baton change outside the area allowed.

However, there was good news for Gemili's Blackheath and Bromley team-mate Dina Asher-Smith, who won bronze in the women's 4x100m relay. Although they finished fourth, the team were later promoted to the bronze-medal position after France, who had finished second, were disqualified.

## CRICKET

Ben Harmison knocked his second century of the season this week

# Harmy on a high after putting tough debut campaign behind him

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

IT was a tough start to life at Kent for former Durham all-rounder Ben Harmison last year, but the big man is revelling in life at Canterbury this time around after settling in.

The 27-year-old was subjected to jeers on entering the field on several occasions last term after a number of below-par performances.

Averaging just 20.31 in the County Championship while batting at number three, he was also dropped into the second XI.

But a winter away from Canterbury has seen the all-rounder come back to the county on form. This week he hit his second century of the summer, now batting at number five.

Last season's heckles are water off a duck's back for Harmison, who, by the end of this week's match against Gloucestershire at Canterbury, had already hit 570 runs this term – that is just 80 short of doubling what he scored last year.

"You get that when you play professional sport – people probably aren't happy with some of the things I've done this year. I'm a big lad – I will take it on the chin. I just try and improve every time I play," he said. "It's working for me this year.

"Last year was a funny season. I had just left Durham, where I had been for 10 years, and travelled 350 miles to sign for a new club. A couple of things weren't really very good for me."

The big difference this season has been, on the face of it, simple. He got a confidence boost early on with big scores, while dropping down the order has helped his form.

"Last year I started the season well, but I didn't get a good score, which I haven't been used to," he said. "I was playing as an out-and-out batter last year and not an all-rounder, which is a bit



SETTLED: Ben Harmison is feeling more at home

new for me. I back my talent. People like you or they don't – hopefully they're liking me a bit more this year.

"I think it's good to get a good score early on – that helps my confidence."

Being up against it when coming to the crease has also proved an ideal situation for Harmy: "I like to fight for runs and a lot of times I have been going in and playing on dodgy pitches with the score at 30-2 or 20-3 and I have to had battle."

He came to the county as an all-rounder, a tag he is keen to maintain if he can get a chance to build on the short spells he has had with the ball.

"When I came back at Christmas, my game felt good – I was batting and bowling well. I took a lot of confidence from that and where I had been bowling again it took a bit of pressure off my batting.

"I'm still an all-rounder. I'm just trying to push my game forward as much as I can. As long as we win, I'm not fussed what happens."

Kent captain James Tredwell was also pleased for Harmison after his second ton, on Wednesday – his first was also against Gloucestershire, at Cheltenham in July.

"That 100 [at Cheltenham] kicked him on," he said. "He's been searching for that in the last season and a half. Everyone in the dressing room is really pleased for him because he puts in all the hours under the sun."

Last word to Harmison: "I think I'm settled here. I love playing for Kent and love the lads – I'm just playing my part."

**■ Kent's Canterbury Week concludes with a fixture against Nottinghamshire in the Yorkshire Bank 40 on Bank Holiday Monday, August 26. The event includes Battle of Britain memorial displays and children's activities throughout the day. Play starts at 1.45pm.**

## SPORTS SHORTS

## CRICKET

## Tredwell to face the Aussies in T20 series

JAMES Tredwell has been included in England's 13-man squad for the two-match T20 series against Australia this week.

England take on the Aussies at the Ageas Bowl on Thursday, August 29, and at Emirates Durham ICG on Saturday, August 31.

Former Kent batsman Michael Carberry is the only member of the squad not to have played a T20 for England.

National selector Geoff Miller said: "With only eight international T20 matches until the ICC World T20 next April, this NatWest series is an important chance for players to show they are capable of performing well at this level."

## MOTORSPORT

## Rain a pain for Paffett at Nürburgring event

GARY Paffett was left rueing the weather at the Nürburgring at the weekend as he finished well down the order after a series of tyre changes.

A reasonable qualifying session saw the Bromley racer secure fifth on the grid for the seventh round of the DTM series.

But stop-start rain lost him time while driving on the wrong tyres and he finished 17th.

"It was a really frustrating weekend," said Paffett. "We had a competitive car and that was shown by my team-mates Robert [Wickens] and Christian [Vitoris] getting podiums, so we had real potential for a win. Hopefully we can get some good results in the next few races."

## ICE HOCKEY

## McNicol jets in from Canada to boost Mos

SCOTTISH skater Adam McNicol has signed for the Invicta Dynamos after returning from a stint in Canada.

The 18-year-old from Dundee was playing for the Orangeville Americas on the other side of the Atlantic but has now teamed up with the Gillingham-based Mos on his return to the country.

Mos coach Kevin Parrish said: "I've no doubt his experiences across the pond will have proven invaluable in his development.

"He is still very young, but he arrives with plenty of promise and an approach to the game that will benefit us in 2013/14."

## MOTORSPORT

## Jackson wants more after Snetterton joy

DRIVER Mat Jackson is hoping Airwaves Racing's successful weekend at Snetterton will be the springboard for the team's season as they head north to Knockhill in the British Touring Car Championship.

The Wrotham-based outfit picked up three podiums in the last round, making it their most successful of the season so far.

The team is in confident mood this weekend as they head north of the border to Knockhill.

Jackson said: "Snetterton was a big turning point for us – we're in really good shape now. Hopefully we can capitalise on the successes at Snetterton and deliver more silverware."



## Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to [www.kentsport.co.uk](http://www.kentsport.co.uk)

## FOOTBALL

# Allen dismisses underdog tag and eyes a settled side

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

GILLINGHAM boss Martin Allen has steered clear of labelling his side as underdogs this season and feels there is more to come once his squad has settled.

It has been a tough reintroduction to life in League One for the Gills, with just a point from their first three league encounters. However, there are no alarm bells ringing at Priestfield, considering that Allen's men have come up against two promotion favourites and been on the end of a last-minute defeat.

Throw in some debatable refereeing decisions in the game against Brentford last weekend and it would not be unfair to suggest they could have easily taken more than one point.

Having moved on from the 4-0 defeat to Wolves, which can be put down as a peak on the learning curve this season, Gillingham put in a high-tempo display against Allen's former side Brentford only to concede a last-minute equaliser and miss out on a decent shout for a penalty.

Despite coming into the division as one of the favourites for the drop, Allen is not keen on the underdog tag and feels his side will improve after a start that has seen them lose a key player in Matt Fish through injury.

"To call us underdogs is probably not quite right," he said. "I don't think it's settled down for us yet, with Fish getting injured, the late goal and the four goals at Wolves.

"The performance last week against a team that will be in the top three showed all the Gillingham supporters that if we're on our game we are a match for anybody."

Allen insisted that he would continue to avoid looking at the league table to remain focused. He said: "I can remember going through last season saying how many times I don't look at the league table, don't ever read the newspapers or watch it on TV – and nothing is going to change.

"I just have to focus on what I have got and not what everybody else talks about and thinks. If I did get distracted by league tables and those types of things, I wouldn't be able to do my job properly."

Allen called for an improvement before the 1-1 draw at Priestfield last week, which is exactly what he got after, in his own words, letting down the 1,200 or so travelling fans at Wolves,



Picture: ADY KERRY

**FOCUSED:** Gillingham manager Martin Allen staying away from the distraction of the league tables

where some left at half-time with the Gills 3-0 down.

Allen pointed to refereeing decisions by Gavin Ward as a big factor in the Brentford draw and revealed he did not talk to the media after the game in an attempt to cool off.

He was particularly upset by a refusal to give a penalty in the second half when Charlie Lee went down in the box under a heavy tackle.

"We were more than comfortable in looking for a win," he said. "The decisions by the referee cost us. It [the Charlie Lee tackle] was the most blatant penalty decision you have ever seen in the history of football. From start to finish he [the referee] was against us.

"That's why after the game I didn't do the media – I just wanted to sit down and be quiet in

my office. I didn't want to say anything that I would regret. Last week he just got it all wrong."

Lee's situation still remains unclear with Allen coy on the player's future. The midfielder was transfer-listed in the summer to make room in the wage budget, but a move to Southend United failed to materialise leaving Lee unexpectedly with the Gills at the start of the season having barely played a part in the pre-season programme.

"Charlie Lee has been superb in both games [Wolves and Brentford] – he's been our best player," said Allen. "I think without going into too much detail there are other issues to take on board that I don't want to talk about publicly. Charlie is our player playing in our team – that's all that matters."

## NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

## Cox back with old pal Southall at Whitstable

FORMER Gillingham defender and Trinidad & Tobago international Ian Cox has signed for Whitstable Town.

The 42-year-old last played for Maidstone United in the 2008/09 season, having played more than 400 games in the Football League for Gillingham, Crystal Palace, Burnley and Bournemouth.

He spent five years at Priestfield after joining from Burnley in 2003, after which he made 153 appearances and scored six times.

He also played 16 times for his country and was on the bench for all three of T&T's World Cup games in 2006.

Now he has decided to rekindle his career at the Ryman One South side, where former Gills teammate Nicky Southall is manager.

Southall said: "I have played in a few charity games with him in the last couple of months. I threw the idea at him a few months ago and he didn't dismiss it, so I thought 'You never know'."

"He then gave me a call and said he wants another year at it the other week.

"It's a great signing for the club. I'm just looking for a bit of experience in and around the team and there is no better man than him. Me and him go back a long way."

Southall has no qualms about his fitness and is realistic about his involvement.

"We both know he's not going to play every game, but he's the kind of player that if we're playing away and need some experience against big teams he will be good.

"He has not played for a couple of years, but he's a fit guy. He plays at his own tempo – he's quite laid back.

"He's very approachable with his outlook. The younger players will take to him – that's why I brought him in.

"He is more than happy to tinker around and help the back four out coaching-wise. We are quite young in the centre-half areas. Those guys can only learn from him, really."



Picture: ADY KERRY

**DEAL:** Southall happy to be reunited with Cox

## GOLF

## Orrin called up to Walker Cup team



Picture: ADY KERRY

BIRCHINGTON'S Max Orrin has been called up to represent Great Britain and Ireland at the Walker Cup.

It has been an impressive season to date for Orrin, who made the semi-finals of the Amateur Championships at Royal Cinque Ports in June, having earlier topped the junior world rankings.

He also came mightily close to qualifying for The Open, sharing a round with Colin Montgomerie, whom he finished above.

The 19-year-old was a member of the England team

who won the European Men's Team Championships in Denmark last month. The North Foreland member also recently reached the second round of the US Amateur Championship.

Now he will get to pit his wits on the world stage in the Walker Cup, which is a biennial amateur version of the Ryder Cup, with GB and Ireland's best going up against the US.

GB will be defending the title won in 2011 on the weekend of September 7-8 at the National Golf Links of America in Southampton, New York.

## CRICKET

## Coles quits Kent after rejecting contract

BOWLER Matt Coles has quit Kent after rejecting a new contract offer, according to the county.

The 23-year-old impressed early in his career after making his debut in 2009 but has gone off the boil in the last season and a half, missing games for 'personal reasons' and falling out of favour.

In 2011 his promise saw him named in the Potential England Performance Programme Squad and during 2012 he was called up to play for England Lions as he impressed in the first half of



Picture: ADY KERRY

**GONE:** Matt Coles has left Kent

last season. He was, though, sent home from a Lions tour of Australia earlier this year for breaching rules, along with Durham's Ben Stokes. His last appearance in the County

Championship came back in June, although he has appeared in both the Yorkshire Bank 40 and the T20.

Kent chairman of cricket Graham Johnson said: "Having seen Matt develop through the Kent system with all the support that this has provided him, it is disappointing that he feels he needs to go elsewhere in search of a way to deliver to his potential.

"We wish him well and are now focused on developing our squad of players who have a desire to play for Kent and have the same vision."

**WORLD STAGE:** Max Orrin



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